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1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS								
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3	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA )								
5	vs. ) Cr	iminal Action							
6	HERZZON SANDOVAL, ) No	. 15-10338-FDS							
7	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·								
8	Defendants )								
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10	BEFORE: THE HONORABLE F. DENNIS SAYLOR	₹, 1∀							
11	JURY TRIAL DAY	11							
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1 **APPEARANCES:** 2 For The United States: 3 United States Attorney's Office, by CHRISTOPHER J. POHL, ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, and KELLY BEGG LAWRENCE, ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, 1 Courthouse Way, Suite 9200, 4 Boston, Massachusetts 02110; 5 For the Defendant Herzzon Sandoval: 6 Foley Hoag LLP, by MARTIN F. MURPHY, ESQ. and 7 MADELEINE K. RODRIGUEZ, ATTORNEY, 155 Seaport Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02210; 8 For the Defendant Edwin Guzman: 9 Lawson & Weitzen, by SCOTT P. LOPEZ, ESQ., 10 88 Black Falcon Avenue, Suite 345, Boston, Massachusetts 02210 11 For the Defendant Erick Arueta Larios: THOMAS J. IOVIENO, ESQ., 345 Neponset Street 12 Canton, MA 02021; 13 For the Defendant Cesar Martinez: 14 Stanley W. Norkunas, 11 Kearney Square, Howe Building, Suite 202, Lowell, Massachusetts 01852. 15 16 ROBERT M. SALTZMAN, ESQ., 1 Central Street, Suite 5, Stoneham, Massachusetts 02180. 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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2	WITNESS		DIRECT	CROSS	REDI	RECT	RECROS	<u>S</u>
3	JOSE HERNANDEZ MIGUEL By Mr. Murphy			5				
4	By Mr. Lopez			21				
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6	<u>EXHIBITS</u>			FOR I	.D.	IN E	VIDENCE	<u> </u>
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## 1 TESTIMONY ONLY THE CLERK: All rise for the jury. 2. (JURORS ENTERED THE COURTROOM.) 3 THE CLERK: Thank you. You may be seated. Court is 4 5 now back in session. 6 THE COURT: All right. Good morning, everyone. Apparently we had an issue with the commute rail, which is one 7 of the things we have to deal with if you live in Boston. 8 9 Before we get started, ladies and gentlemen, there was 09:14AM 10 an article this morning in the Boston Globe, both in paper and 11 online, about -- basically about this case or MS-13. 12 Did any of you see it or read it? Everyone is shaking 1.3 their head. Let me remind you again that you are not to read 14 anything like that. If you are interested, you can have 1.5 someone set aside the article in paper form, or you can 16 probably find it electronically after the trial, but again, 17 during the trial, it's important that you not expose yourself 18 to media reports. 19 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Murphy, are you ready? 09:14AM 20 MR. MURPHY: May I proceed, your Honor? 21 THE COURT: Yes. 22 And do you understand, sir, that you're still under 23 oath? 24 THE WITNESS: Yes. 25 THE COURT: Mr. Murphy.

1 MR. MURPHY: Your Honor, may we display the chalk that I was using at the end of the day on the document camera? 2 THE COURT: Yes. 3 MR. MURPHY: I can proceed without it, your Honor. 4 5 THE COURT: Okay. Is it possible to reboot? 6 THE CLERK: I did this morning, but I can do it again. THE COURT: Why don't you proceed, Mr. Murphy, while 7 we're fiddling with this. 8 9 MR. MURPHY: Thank you. 10 JOSE HERNANDEZ MIGUEL, RESUMED 11 CROSS-EXAMINATION, CONTINUED 12 BY MR. MURPHY: So when we broke yesterday, we were talking about the 13 14 events of May 12, 2013. Do you recall that, sir? 1.5 Α. Yes. And after Brujo called you from the park, Pelon called 16 Domingo and told him that you were going to pick him up and 17 that he should bring a knife, correct? 18 19 I don't recall if Pelon was the one that called Domingo. I know a call went out. I don't remember if it was myself that 09:16AM 20 21 made the call or Pelon. 22 MR. MURPHY: Your Honor, may I approach and do it the 23 old fashioned way in light of the document camera? THE COURT: Yes. 24 25 MR. MURPHY: So, Ms. Huacuja, I'd ask you to read that

- 1 sentence to the witness in Spanish, please.
- 2 (Interpreter interpreted in Spanish.)
- 3 Q. And, sir, does that help you remember that it was Pelon
- 4 who called Domingo and told him to bring the knife?
- 5 A. I don't recall that Pelon called him. The call went out,
- 6 and it was either I called or Pelon called, but I don't recall
- 7 Pelon calling because he was driving.
- 8 Q. I'm sorry, I couldn't hear.
- 9 A. He was driving.
- 09:18AM 10 Q. You did tell the FBI and Mr. Pohl and the other folks that
  - 11 you met with on July 15, 2016 that it was Pelon who made the
  - 12 | call, correct?
  - 13 A. I don't recall.
  - 14 Q. You recall, sir, that that's what the report states,
  - 15 however, correct?
  - 16 A. That's what the report says.
  - 17 Q. And either you or Pelon told Domingo to bring the knife,
  - 18 | correct?
  - 19 A. To Domingo?
- 09:18AM 20 Q. Yes.
  - 21 A. Yes.
  - 22 Q. So either one of you did tell him, you agree, to bring the
  - 23 knife that day, correct?
  - 24 A. Yes.
  - 25 Q. And then you went to Highland Park in Chelsea, correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And you told us that after the folks you've identified as
- 3 chavalas saw you, they ran, correct?
- 4 A. No, not when they saw us. We got into like the front of
- 5 the park. When they saw us, they stood up, and one of them
- 6 | moved forward sort of like telling the others to attack me, and
- 7 | that's when I said La Mara Salvatrucha.
- 8 Q. And, sir, there came a time that morning when the
- 9 18th Street members who were there saw that Domingo was
- 09:20AM 10 attempting to pull out a knife and then fled, correct?
  - 11 A. Yes.
  - 12 Q. And when that happened, sir, one 18th Street member ran
  - 13 | towards the park's parking lot, but Pelon grabbed him and
  - 14 | started beating him, correct?
  - 15 A. No, I don't recall Pelon hitting him. He was the last one
  - 16 to come towards the park, and he was the last one to get out of
  - 17 the car.
  - 18 Q. Well, sir, when you met with the FBI and Mr. Pohl and the
  - 19 State Police on July 15, 2016, what you told them was that one
- 09:21AM 20 | 18th Street member ran towards the park's parking lot, but
  - 21 | Pelon grabbed him and started beating him. Isn't that correct,
  - 22 | sir, that's what you told the FBI on that day?
  - 23 A. I don't recall having said that Pelon grabbed him.
  - MR. MURPHY: May I approach, your Honor?
  - THE COURT: Yes.

- MR. MURPHY: And with the Court's permission, I'd ask
  Ms. Huacuja to read that sentence in Spanish to the witness,
  beginning with 1.

  Q. And, sir, does reading that help you remember that what
  - Q. And, sir, does reading that help you remember that what you said was that one 18th Street member ran towards the park's parking lot, but Pelon grabbed him and started beating him?
- 7 A. I don't recall having said that Pelon grabbed him.
- Q. But you agree, sir, that that's what the report states,
  correct?
- 09:23AM 10 A. That's what the report says.

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- Q. And you agree, sir, don't you, that you took Domingo's knife and stabbed the 18th Street member while Pelon held him down?
- 14 A. I never saw Pelon there, and I never saw Pelon holding the
  15 18 there. I did stab the 18.
  - Q. You told the State Police and the FBI and Mr. Pohl on July 15, 2016, did you not, sir, that Pelon held the 18th Street member down while you stabbed him?
  - A. Not that I recall.
- MR. MURPHY: May I approach, your Honor?

  THE COURT: Yes.
  - MR. MURPHY: And with the Court's permission, I'd ask
    Ms. Huacuja to read the sentence that begins with "Hernandez
    Miguel."
  - Q. And, sir, does that help you remember that on July 15,

- 1 2016, what you told the FBI and the State Police and Mr. Pohl
- 2 | was that you took Domingo's knife and stabbed the 18th Street
- 3 | member while Pelon held him down?
- 4 A. I don't remember ever saying that I stabbed the 18 while
- 5 Pelon was holding him because the 18th was on the floor. He
- 6 was on the ground almost under a car like he was trying to get
- 7 under the car. How was Pelon going to be holding him under the
- 8 car?
- 9 Q. Sir, you agree though that that's what the report states,
- 09:26AM 10 | that Pelon was holding him down while you were stabbing him,
  - 11 | correct?
  - 12 A. That's what the report says.
  - 13 Q. Thank you, sir. Now, let me turn to a different subject,
  - 14 | the subject of a clique gun. Now, you testified that you
  - 15 recall that Mr. Larios, Lobo, had the gun taken away from him
  - 16 by the police in January of 2015, correct?
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 Q. And before that, at some point in 2014, an individual
  - 19 named Tigre had the clique gun, correct?
- 09:27AM 20 A. That was not the clique gun. That was Tigre's gun.
  - 21 Q. Well, haven't you said, sir, that Tigre accidentally shot
  - 22 off the clique gun in a car in 2014, sir? Wasn't that your
  - 23 testimony on direct examination?
  - 24 A. It wasn't the clique gun, it belonged to Tigre, but the
  - 25 clique did take it from him, that's correct.

- 1 Q. And that was because, sir, that he had accidentally shot
- 2 | the gun inside a car, correct?
- 3 A. And he was also drunk.
- 4 Q. When he was drunk, correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And he had almost hit someone named Vincentino, correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 MR. MURPHY: And I don't know, your Honor, whether the camera would work for exhibits that have been admitted.
- 09:28AM 10 THE CLERK: We can try it.
  - MR. MURPHY: We can try it. I'd ask that Exhibit 10
  - 12 which is in evidence be displayed.
  - 13 THE COURT: Okay. It's working.
  - MR. MURPHY: Thank you, your Honor.
  - 15 Q. And looking at Exhibit 10, sir, who is that?
  - 16 A. Vincentino.
  - 17 Q. And so Vincentino's gun was taken away from him because he
  - 18 had shot it in a car while he was drunk, correct? I'm sorry,
  - 19 let me ask a different question.
- 09:29AM 20 | A. Vincentino did not have a gun.
  - 21 Q. Vincentino was the person who was almost shot, correct?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 Q. The person who shot the gun accidentally while drunk was
  - 24 | Tigre, correct?
  - 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And if we could look at Exhibit 7. That's Tigre, correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And is it fair to say that Tigre had a drinking problem,
- 4 sir?
- 5 A. I don't know.
- 6 Q. Well, he was drunk when he shot the gun in the car in
- 7 | 2014, correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And on direct examination, you testified about a clique
- 09:30AM 10 | meeting that took place in 2015 where he was corrected, I think
  - 11 | was your word, for having fallen off the wagon, correct?
  - 12 A. Yes.
  - 13 Q. And we saw a video that was in the dark of him actually
  - 14 being corrected, correct?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. And he had been corrected, to use your word, because he
  - 17 | had fallen off the wagon, correct?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. He had been ordered by the clique not to drink, correct?
- 09:31AM 20 A. Yes.
  - 21 Q. But he drank anyway, correct?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 | Q. Now, after the clique -- after the gun was taken away from
  - 24 | Tigre because he shot it when he was drunk in the car, it went
  - 25 to Mr. Larios, correct?

- 1 THE INTERPRETER: The gun?
- 2 MR. MURPHY: The gun, yes.
- 3 A. The runners passed it over to him.
- 4 | Q. Fair enough, sir. And it was taken away from him in
- 5 January 2015?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And he was asked about the circumstances of it being taken
- 8 away from him at a clique meeting in February 2015 that we
- 9 talked about yesterday?
- 09:32AM 10 A. Yes.
  - 11 Q. And there was more conversation about the clique gun at a
  - 12 clique meeting in March, sir; isn't that correct?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - MR. MURPHY: And if we could go to what's been marked
  - 15 | in evidence as Exhibit 24.
  - 16 Q. Would you look at the first page. And that's a transcript
  - 17 | that you testified about on direct examination of a clique
  - 18 meeting that took place on March 29, 2015, correct?
  - 19 A. Yes.
- 09:33AM 20 | Q. And if we turn to page 6, you'd agree, sir, that there was
  - 21 | a discussion at that clique meeting about the clique gun,
  - 22 | correct?
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - 24 Q. The police had taken it, correct?
  - 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And no one had yet replaced it, correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And there was a discussion about gathering money for a
- 4 | clique gun, correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. But Mr. Sandoval said it's more important to raise money
- 7 to bring someone back into the country than it was to gather
- 8 money for a clique gun, correct?
- 9 A. Yes, but he also said that Lobo had to pay for the gun on
- 09:34AM 10 | his own.
  - 11 Q. Because he was the one who had lost it to the police,
  - 12 | correct?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. Now, there was another discussion about the clique gun at
  - 15 a clique meeting in October, correct?
  - 16 A. Yes.
  - 17 Q. And that was on October 28th, if we take a look at
  - 18 | Exhibit 28?
  - 19 A. Yes.
- 09:35AM 20 | Q. And so that's more than 10 months after the gun had been
  - 21 taken from Mr. Larios?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 Q. Still no clique gun, correct?
  - 24 A. Not yet.
  - 25 Q. And Mr. Larios had brought a clique gun, had brought a

- 1 gun, but it didn't have a clip, correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And you thought that showed a lack of respect, correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And what does it mean for a gun not to have a clip, sir?
- 6 A. Well, if it has no clip where are you going to put the
- 7 shots?
- 8 Q. So it doesn't work without a clip, correct?
- 9 A. It doesn't work.
- 09:36AM 10 (Witness spoke in Spanish that was not translated.)
  - MR. MURPHY: With respect to your Honor, I do not
  - 12 believe there was a question pending.
  - 13 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead. Put another
  - 14 question.
  - 15 Q. You got a gun for the clique in December of 2015, correct?
  - 16 THE INTERPRETER: Could you explain to the interpreter
  - 17 | who do you refer to as "you."
  - 18 Q. You, sir, got a gun for the clique in September of 2015?
  - 19 A. I didn't get a gun for the clique. It was Negro that got
- 09:37AM 20 it.
  - 21 Q. And you came to hold that gun, correct?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 Q. And the reason that gun was obtained was because the
  - 24 members of ESLS wanted to protect themselves from members of
  - 25 | the Everett clique because members of the Everett clique were

- 1 upset with ESLS for refusing to join the East Coast Program?
- 2 A. It wasn't only for that. It was also because there was no
- 3 weapon and the dudes were asking for a gun.
- 4 Q. And you talked to the FBI and the State Police about that
- 5 | qun on May 31, 2016, correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And what you told the agents and the officers present was
- 8 that the gun was purchased by and belongs to the ELS clique,
- 9 the gun was purchased by ESLS for members to protect themselves
- 09:38AM 10 from members of the Everett Loco Salvatrucha MS-13 clique,
  - 11 members of the ELS were upset with ESLS for refusing to follow
  - 12 | the MS-13 East Coast Program; that's what you told the police?
  - 13 THE INTERPRETER: May the interpreter --
  - 14 MR. MURPHY: Oh, certainly. May I approach, your
  - 15 Honor?
  - 16 THE COURT: Yes.
  - 17 Q. That, sir, is what you told the State Police and the FBI
  - and the U.S. Attorney's Office on May 19, 2016, correct?
  - 19 A. Yes.
- 09:40AM 20 | Q. Now, on direct examination, sir, to switch to another
  - 21 topic, Mr. Pohl asked you questions about the shooting in
  - 22 Chelsea in December 2014. Do you recall that?
  - 23 A. I don't understand the question.
  - Q. Do you recall, sir, being asked about an event where a gun
  - 25 was brought to Vida Loca?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And that was in December 2014, sir?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And Mr. Norkunas asked you some questions about that as
- 5 | well, correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. You were not disciplined by the clique, sir, for deciding
- 8 | not to go to bring the gun to Vida Loca, correct?
- 9 A. No.
- 09:41AM 10 Q. But some time after the shooting, Vincentino -- if we
  - 11 | could go back to Exhibit 10 -- he was corrected, correct?
  - 12 A. Yes.
  - 13 Q. And he was corrected because before the shooting,
  - 14 | Vida Loca had been in a fist fight with the man that he later
  - 15 | shot, and Vincentino did not help Vida Loca during that fist
  - 16 | fight, correct?
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 | Q. And after the shooting, the individual known as Crazy came
  - 19 to one of your clique meetings, correct?
- 09:42AM 20 A. Yes.
  - 21 Q. And he complained that Vincentino hadn't come to
  - 22 Vida Loca's defense during this fist fight, correct?
  - 23 A. That Vida Loca had said that we needed to correct
  - 24 Vincentino because Vincentino had not helped when he had had
  - 25 | the fight there, and so Crazy had shown up to make sure that

- 1 Vincentino would be corrected.
- 2 Q. And Crazy also said if you don't correct him, either me or
- 3 Vida Loca will, correct?
- 4 THE INTERPRETER: Vida Loca or who else?
- 5 MR. MURPHY: Or Crazy.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And at that point, you knew that Vida Loca had shot and
- 8 killed somebody only a day or two before?
- 9 A. Yes, I had already heard that.
- 09:44AM 10 Q. Now, you testified on direct examination about the
  - 11 individual Joel Martinez who you knew as Animal?
  - 12 A. Yes.
  - 13 Q. And you said that Animal had a problem with the Everett
  - 14 clique because when he first came to this country, he had been
  - 15 hanging around with 18th Street members, correct?
  - 16 A. Yes, that Animal said to me.
  - 17 Q. And Animal was from El Salvador, correct?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. And you knew, sir, that Animal had entered the country
- 09:44AM 20 illegally, correct?
  - 21 A. I don't know.
  - 22 | Q. Did you talk about that with Animal?
  - 23 A. Not that I can recall.
  - Q. Did you ever ask Animal whether he had any working papers?
  - 25 A. We never spoke about that.

- 1 Q. And do you know, sir, where Mr. -- where Animal entered
- 2 the United States?
- 3 A. I don't know.
- 4 Q. You, sir, were in the country illegally, however, correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And you had been deported, correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And you know, sir, based on your own experience that if a
- 9 person is in the country illegally, they can be arrested by ICE o9:45AM 10 for any reason at any time, correct?
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
  - 12 THE COURT: I'll let him -- it's not a legal opinion.
  - 13 I'll let him testify as to his understanding.
  - 14 A. Yes.
  - 15 Q. And that was your experience, sir, correct?
  - 16 A. Yes.
  - 17 Q. Now, you testified on direct examination that the purpose
  - 18 and the mission of MS-13 is to kill chavalas, correct?
  - 19 A. Yes, attack chavalas and any other rival.
- 09:46AM 20 | Q. And tell us, sir, is it the mission to attack or to kill?
  - 21 A. One never knows if you're going to kill him or just wound
  - 22 him.
  - 23 Q. Is it the goal to try to kill chavalas?
  - 24 A. When you're with chavalas, you can't be sure if you're
  - 25 going to kill him, or if you're just going to wound him.

- 1 Q. But I'm asking you, sir, about what you say the goals of
- 2 MS-13 are. Is it the goal or the mission of MS-13 to kill or
- 3 just to attack?
- 4 A. To kill and to attack.
- 5 Q. Now, you've been a member of MS-13, according to your
- 6 testimony, for 13 years?
- 7 A. More or less, 12, something like that.
- 8 Q. And it's fair to say, sir, that you've remained for that
- 9 period, until your arrest, you were a member in good standing,
- 09:48AM 10 | correct?
  - 11 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 12 Q. You were never kicked out of MS-13, correct?
  - 13 A. No.
  - 14 Q. And during that period, it's fair to say that the number
  - of rival gang members that you killed was exactly zero,
  - 16 correct?
  - 17 A. Yes, zero.
  - 18 Q. And after you came to Massachusetts, you stabbed one rival
  - 19 gang member, correct?
- 09:49AM 20 A. Yes.
  - 21 Q. Just one, correct?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 | Q. And that was on May 12, 2015, correct?
  - 24 A. Yes.
  - 25 Q. After Pelon drove you to Highland Park in Chelsea,

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1 | correct?
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- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And you agree, sir, that it was your hand on that knife,
- 4 sir, correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And it was your decision to use it that day, correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And according to you, sir, no one talked you into doing
- 9 that, correct?
- 09:49AM 10 A. Yes.
  - 11 Q. Because no one talks you into doing anything, right?
  - 12 A. Everyone who belongs to MS, that's what we do.
  - 13 Q. But, sir --
  - 14 A. In MS, all there is is violence, nothing else.
  - 15 Q. So, sir, it was your hand on the knife?
  - 16 A. Yes.
  - 17 Q. And you did this, as you testified yesterday, at the end
  - 18 of the day, on your own account, correct?
  - 19 A. Yes.
- 09:50AM 20 MR. MURPHY: May I have a moment, your Honor?
  - THE COURT: Yes.
  - MR. MURPHY: Thank you, your Honor.
  - 23 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Lopez.
  - 24
  - 25

## 1 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 2 BY MR. LOPEZ:
- 3 Q. Good morning, Mr. Hernandez Miguel.
- 4 A. Good morning.
- 5 Q. My name is Scott Lopez. I represent Edwin Guzman. We've
- 6 never met before, right?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Now, you were born in El Salvador?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 09:51AM 10 | Q. And you lived in El Salvador until you were about 14?
  - 11 A. Yes.
  - 12 Q. Did you live with your parents?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. With your mother?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. Your father?
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 Q. And when you were 10 years old, you were first exposed to
  - 19 MS-13?
- 09:52AM 20 | A. I don't understand the question.
  - 21 | Q. Well, when you were -- I think you testified on direct
  - 22 that you first learned about MS-13 when you were 10 years old?
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - 24 Q. They were in your neighborhood?
  - 25 A. Yes, everywhere they were.

- 1 Q. Everywhere. And when you were 14 years old, your uncle
- 2 came to El Salvador to visit your parents?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And your uncle lived in the United States?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Had you met your uncle before you were 14?
- 7 A. Yeah, my uncle would visit regularly.
- 8 Q. And what do you mean by regularly?
- 9 A. Every year.
- 09:53AM 10 Q. Was there a particular time of year that he would come and
  - 11 | visit?
  - 12 A. I don't know, whenever he wanted to, I guess.
  - 13 Q. What's your uncle's name?
  - 14 A. Tomas Miguel.
  - 15 | Q. And now at some point when you were 14 and your uncle came
  - 16 to visit, he told you that he would help you so you could help
  - 17 | your family?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. Did he explain to you what he meant by that, while he was
- 09:54AM 20 in El Salvador?
  - 21 A. Yes.
  - 22 Q. What did he tell you?
  - 23 A. That he would help me to come here so that I would work
  - 24 and help my parents with money.
  - 25 Q. So, I think you testified that you decided to come to the

- 1 United States?
- 2 A. I don't understand the question.
- 3 Q. Well, did you make the decision to come to the
- 4 United States at age 14 or did your parents make that decision
- 5 for you?
- 6 A. No, my parents told me that if I wanted to come, it was up
- 7 to me. That it was my decision.
- 8 Q. But were they -- did they want you to help by working in
- 9 the United States?
- 09:55AM 10 A. There was an opportunity. Not everybody gets the
  - 11 opportunity to come to the United States.
  - 12 Q. So you wanted to come to the United States to work?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. And to send money back home for your family?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. Now, before you moved to the United States, did you know
  - 17 | where your uncle lived?
  - 18 A. I don't understand.
  - 19 Q. Before you moved from El Salvador to the United States,
- 09:56AM 20 | did you know where your uncle lived in the United States?
  - 21 A. I had heard that he lived in California.
  - 22 | Q. Had you ever been to the United States before?
  - 23 A. No.
  - Q. In any event, you came to the United States?
  - 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. How did that make you feel?
- 2 A. Everything was different, everything was better.
- 3 Q. Did you feel --
- THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, there was an answer.
- 5 A. I had two jobs and I would get money and I would send it
- 6 to my parents.
- 7 Q. Did you feel abandoned by your parents?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Did you think how could my parents send me away if they
- 09:57AM 10 loved me?
  - 11 A. No.
  - 12 Q. Now, I think you said that your father didn't pay for the
  - 13 coyote, your uncle did?
  - 14 A. My uncle.
  - 15 Q. And do you know what your uncle wanted in return for
  - 16 helping you?
  - 17 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 18 Q. Well, I mean your uncle was helping. What did he want in
  - 19 return?
- 09:57AM 20 | A. No, my uncle helped many people.
  - 21 Q. But he made you work?
  - THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry.
  - 23 Q. Your uncle made you work?
  - 24 A. He didn't force me to work, one has to work to remain
  - 25 active.

- 1 Q. I didn't say anything about forcing you, but you came here
- 2 to work and you, in fact, worked, right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And did he make you do chores around the house?
- 5 THE INTERPRETER: Make you do?
- 6 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. And he didn't send you to school?
- 9 A. No.
- 09:58AM 10 | Q. What type of job -- you said you had two jobs. What types
  - of jobs did you have when you first came here at age 14?
  - 12 A. As a dishwasher and also working at a Mexican restaurant
  - 13 making burritos.
  - 14 Q. And approximately how many hours a week were you working
  - 15 at age 14?
  - 16 A. I worked about seven hours a day, seven hours at each job.
  - 17 Q. So, 14 hours a day?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. Seven days a week?
- 09:59AM 20 A. No, five days a week.
  - 21 Q. Five days a week. So 14 hours a day, five days a week?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 Q. And how much money were you making that you brought home?
  - 24 A. Quite a bit.
  - 25 Q. How much?

- 1 A. I don't remember.
- 2 Q. Give me a ballpark.
- 3 A. About 700, because you get paid every two weeks.
- 4 Q. And were you paying taxes on that money you were earning
- 5 in the United States?
- 6 A. I don't remember.
- 7 Q. How much of that money did you send to your parents every
- 8 week?
- 9 A. I don't remember, but I always helped them.
- 10:01AM 10 Q. So there wasn't a particular amount that you had to send
  - 11 to them every week?
  - 12 A. No, because I still had to pay for the trip.
  - 13 Q. So you had to pay back your uncle for the coyote?
  - 14 A. Of course. No one gives money out as a gift.
  - 15 Q. So, you paid for the coyote, not your uncle?
  - 16 A. My uncle paid for it and then I paid him back.
  - 17 Q. Did you also pay your uncle rent?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. Did you pay him for the food you ate?
- 10:01AM 20 A. Yes.
  - 21 Q. And whatever was left over, you sent to your parents?
  - 22 A. Yes, I always sent them.
  - 23 Q. And how much were you allowed to keep for yourself?
  - 24 A. Whatever was necessary for me.
  - 25 Q. Well, what does that mean? Explain.

- 1 A. I would pay the rent, I would pay my uncle back, I would
- 2 | send money to my mother, and I would have maybe 100 or 150 left
- 3 over.
- 4 Q. Now, I think you testified that when you were 16, you
- 5 started high school?
- 6 A. Yes, I also went to high school.
- 7 Q. And that was about two years after you arrived in the
- 8 United States?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10:03AM 10 Q. And when you were in high school -- well, strike that.
  - Before you went to high school, did anyone attempt to teach you
  - 12 English?
  - 13 A. No.
  - 14 Q. And so when you went to high school, you didn't understand
  - 15 English?
  - 16 A. That's why I went, to study English.
  - 17 Q. So you were taught English in high school for the first
  - 18 time?
  - 19 A. That's why I went.
- 10:03AM 20 | Q. Okay. Now, when you went to high school -- by the way,
  - 21 did you participate in any afterschool sports?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 Q. What sports did you participate in?
  - 24 A. Soccer.
  - 25 | Q. And did you work a job after school?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And how many hours a week did you work a job after school?
- 3 A. I would start the job at 4:30 and get out around midnight.
- 4 Q. And then you'd go to school the next day?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. How did you do in school? What kind of grades did you
- 7 receive?
- 8 MR. POHL: Objection, Judge.
- 9 THE COURT: I'm struggling with the relevance of any
- 10:04AM 10 of this, Mr. Lopez.
  - MR. LOPEZ: Let me move on, your Honor.
  - 12 Q. When you went to high school, you were the new kid in
  - 13 town?
  - 14 A. There were many people that were new.
  - 15 Q. Did kids make fun of you?
  - 16 A. No.
  - 17 Q. Did kids pick fights with you?
  - 18 A. Not in the first days.
  - 19 Q. How long did it take before kids started to pick fights
- 10:05AM 20 with you?
  - 21 A. I made some friends among the Surenos, and when I started
  - 22 | hanging out with the Surenos, then the Nortenos started picking
  - 23 fights.
  - 24 Q. And you learned to fight back?
  - 25 A. I didn't learn to fight, only to defend myself.

- 1 Q. To protect yourself?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. That was your first -- the first time that there was
- 4 violence in your life?
- 5 A. I don't remember.
- 6 Q. Now, I think you said at some point you met Curly?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And you testified that Curly was the word for the Seaside
- 9 clique?
- 10:06AM 10 A. Yes.
  - 11 Q. And how old was Curly when you met him?
  - 12 A. I don't know.
  - 13 Q. Was he older than 16?
  - 14 A. Yes, he was older than 25.
  - 15 Q. Older than 25?
  - 16 A. I think so.
  - 17 Q. And you were 16?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. And you started hanging out with him?
- 10:07AM 20 A. Yes.
  - 21 Q. Kind of took you under his wing?
  - 22 A. I don't understand.
  - 23 Q. Kind of became like a big brother to you?
  - 24 A. Yes, once you start hanging out with MS-13 dudes, that's
  - 25 what they do. They treat you in such a way that you feel safe

- 1 | with them.
- 2 Q. Because he was a homie?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And you were his little homie?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And he gave you alcohol to drink?
- 7 A. What I recall is that we only smoked marijuana.
- 8 Q. And he was the one that provided the marijuana?
- 9 A. No, sometimes I would get it on my own.
- 10:08AM 10 Q. Okay. And sometimes he would provide what he had for you?
  - 11 A. Yes.
  - 12 Q. Would it be fair to say that you admired him?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. That you trusted him?
  - 15 A. I respected him because any time that a dude is jumped
  - 16 into MS-13, you respect him, especially if he's a runner.
  - 17 Q. And he made you a homeboy, right?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. How did that make you feel?
- 10:09AM 20 | A. I felt fine. Whenever anyone is jumped into MS-13, after
  - 21 the beating, one feels happy with the dudes.
  - 22 Q. Did it make you feel strong?
  - 23 A. Yes, once you become a member of MS-13, one's life is
  - 24 different because there are rules in MS-13.
  - 25 Q. And so did it make you feel important?

- 1 A. Perhaps I did not feel important since I was just a
- 2 newcomer.
- 3 Q. Well, I think you said that it made you feel like your
- 4 other homeboys were your brothers, right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Kind of like your family?
- 7 A. Like family, yes.
- 8 Q. And they would have your back?
- 9 A. Yes. Yes, and in the same way they protect you, you have
- 10:10AM 10 to protect them as well.
  - 11 Q. And so you didn't have to worry about being attacked at
  - 12 | school anymore, did you?
  - 13 A. In school, it was different because Curly couldn't go into
  - 14 the school nor could the other dudes there.
  - 15 Q. Well, did you tell your uncle that you became a homeboy?
  - 16 A. No.
  - 17 Q. Did you tell your parents that you became a homeboy?
  - 18 A. No.
  - 19 Q. And at some point after you became a homeboy, you stabbed
- 10:11AM 20 | someone, right?
  - 21 A. Yes.
  - 22 | Q. And I think you testified that you were 17 at the time?
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - 24 Q. And you were with Curly?
  - 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Did Curly tell you to stab the person?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Did he ask you to stab the person?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. You just knew that you had to stab the person?
- 6 A. We were at the parking lot at a party and Curly was
- 7 | surrounded, so I had taken a piss when I heard them asking
- 8 | Curly what did he flash, so I went up there, and when I saw
- 9 that there were a lot of guys there, I said, "What's up?" And
- 10:12AM 10 when the guy turned around I saw -- I knew him. I knew he was
  - 11 a Norteno.
  - 12 Q. So if I'm hearing you correctly, Curly was in trouble?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. He was surrounded by Nortenos?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. And you came to his defense?
  - 17 A. We weren't going together, but what happens is I had
  - 18 stopped to take a leak and since he was going in and he was
  - 19 ahead of me, he got attacked first.
- 10:13AM 20 | Q. So when you stabbed someone for the first time, it was
  - 21 because Curly was being attacked, right?
  - 22 | A. They weren't attacking him, they were just saying what's
  - 23 up, like what was he flashing because he was wearing very loose
  - 24 clothing.
  - 25 Q. How many Nortenos were around Curly?

- 1 A. I think there were three, but there were more from over
- 2 there to over here.
- 3 Q. And it was just you and Curly?
- 4 A. No, there was a Sureno with us as well.
- 5 Q. So three on three?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And you stabbed one of the Nortenos?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Did the Nortenos attempt to stab you or Curly before you
- 10:14AM 10 stabbed them?
  - 11 A. No.
  - 12 Q. So you were the aggressor?
  - 13 A. No, because they had Curly surrounded. That's why I went
  - 14 there.
  - 15 Q. Because you thought they were going to stab Curly?
  - 16 A. Yes.
  - 17 Q. So you thought you were defending Curly?
  - 18 A. Being a member of MS-13, you can't allow for another dude
  - 19 to lose.
- 10:15AM 20 Q. Sir, what I'm trying to get to is your state of mind when
  - 21 you stabbed the Norteno.
  - MR. POHL: I object, Judge. I think he answered that
  - 23 question.
  - 24 THE COURT: Again, I'm having trouble seeing the
  - 25 relevance of any of this, but I'll allow it, go ahead.

- 1 Q. When you stabbed the Norteno, did you think that you were
- 2 protecting Curly?
- 3 A. Well, what I did was because Curly was -- they were going
- 4 to attack Curly, so before they attacked Curly, I did that.
- 5 O. You struck first?
- 6 A. Exactly, because they had him surrounded. Once you're
- 7 | surrounded in that way, that means that they're going to beat
- 8 you up.
- 9 Q. Now, Mr. Hernandez Miguel, are you familiar with MS-13
- 10:16AM 10 rules regarding older or mature members of the gang?
  - 11 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 12 Q. Well, have you ever heard the term "calmado"?
  - 13 A. Yes, I've heard that.
  - 14 Q. And that's when older members are allowed to retire, so to
  - 15 speak?
  - 16 A. That hardly occurs.
  - 17 Q. But there's a rule that allows for it, right?
  - 18 | A. There is no rule saying that somebody can get beat,
  - 19 calmado. It's only the clique might tell someone to calm down,
- 10:18AM 20 | to calmado.
  - 21 Q. So calmado means to calm down?
  - 22 A. Like to take it easy.
  - 23 Q. And someone who's allowed to calm down isn't expected to
  - 24 go out and participate in gang activities, right?
  - 25 A. Nowhere.

- 1 Q. And usually it's members who are married?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Starting families?
- 4 A. Most of the dudes have children.
- 5 Q. Get legitimate jobs?
- 6 A. Most of the dudes have jobs.
- 7 Q. Buy homes?
- 8 A. That doesn't matter, according to the gang rules, the MS
- 9 rules.
- 10:19AM 10 Q. And those who are calmed down refuse to participate in
  - 11 gang activities, right?
  - 12 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 13 Q. Since you were about 16 years old, you have lived a life
  - 14 of crime?
  - 15 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 16 Q. Well, I think you said your first stabbing was when you
  - 17 | were 17 years old?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. And since that time, you've been committing other crimes,
- 10:19AM 20 | right?
  - 21 A. Anyone who belongs to MS-13, that's what we do.
  - 22 | Q. Sir, I'm not talking about anyone besides you. You have
  - 23 | lived a life of crime since you were 17 years old, correct?
  - 24 A. Anyone who belongs to MS-13, that's what they do.
  - MR. LOPEZ: Move to strike the answer, your Honor.

- 1 THE COURT: All right.
- Q. Sir, I'm going to ask again. You, Mr. Hernandez Miguel,
- 3 have lived a life of crime since you were 17 years old,
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And you've lived a life of crime and violence?
- 7 A. You learn violence in MS-13.
- 8 Q. And you learned violence?
- 9 A. From MS.
- 10:21AM 10 Q. And you lived a life of violence, right?
  - 11 A. Because I was an MS-13 and that's what MS-13 does. They
  - 12 | bring you in for violence and you have to be in committing
  - 13 violence.
  - 14 Q. Sir, you're the one testifying.
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. I'm not asking anyone else who may be a member of MS-13
  - 17 | about their life. I'm asking about your life, right?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. And you have lived a life of violence?
- 10:22AM 20 | A. I'm telling you that that's what one learns in MS-13.
  - 21 Q. I'm not asking where you learned it. I'm saying -- I'm
  - 22 | asking you did you live one, live a life of violence?
  - 23 A. Exactly what I'm telling you that I learned that in MS-13
  - 24 | because had I not joined MS-13, that's not what I would have
  - 25 learned.

- 1 Q. So your answer is yes?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And, in fact, you lived a life of crime, violence, and
- 4 lies, right?
- THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, what was the last part?
- 6 MR. LOPEZ: Lies.
- 7 A. I don't understand.
- 8 Q. Well, you know what a lie is?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10:23AM 10 Q. Like when you told the Eastside clique that you had
  - 11 | committed three murders, that was a lie, right?
  - 12 A. Yes.
  - 13 Q. And so you've lived a life of crime, violence and lies
  - 14 | since you were 17 years old, right?
  - 15 A. Yes, I learned it in MS-13.
  - 16 Q. And you became very good at all three, didn't you?
  - 17 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 18 Q. Well, during your life of crime, you learned ways to avoid
  - 19 being responsible for your criminal conduct, right?
- 10:24AM 20 A. I don't understand.
  - 21 Q. During your life of crime, did you learn ways not to be
  - 22 | caught?
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - Q. Because the most important thing in your life has always
  - been what's in the best interest of Mr. Hernandez Miguel,

- 1 right?
- 2 A. I don't understand the question.
- 3 Q. Well, the most important thing in your life is doing
- 4 what's best for you, right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. And one of the things you became very good at was lying,
- 7 right?
- 8 A. I don't even understand your question.
- 9 Q. Well, did you get very good at lying to other people?
- 10:25AM 10 A. No, I don't understand.
  - 11 Q. Well, did you lie to people involved in law enforcement?
  - 12 A. Not that I know of.
  - 13 Q. Did you lie to people involved in immigration enforcement?
  - 14 A. Not that I know of. I don't know.
  - 15 Q. Because the most important thing for you was to stay out
  - 16 of trouble, right?
  - 17 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 18 Q. Well, sir, do you know what a lie is?
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
- 10:26AM 20 THE COURT: I think we've been over this quite a bit,
  - 21 Mr. Lopez.
  - 22 | Q. Well, would you agree with me that you would lie whenever
  - 23 you needed to get something you wanted?
  - 24 A. No, I don't understand.
  - 25 | Q. Well, when you lie, you are trying to convince the other

- 1 person that you're talking to that you're telling the truth,
- 2 right?
- 3 A. I don't understand the question.
- Q. Well, when you lie, and you've lied in the past, have you
- 5 tried to convince the other person that you were lying so that
- 6 you were telling them the truth?
- 7 MR. POHL: Objection.
- 8 THE COURT: I'll hear the answer.
- 9 A. As far as I know, I have not lied.
- 10:27AM 10 Q. You've never lied?
  - 11 A. That I know of. I don't understand what you're talking to
  - me about.
  - 13 Q. Well, can someone tell that you're lying by looking at
  - 14 you?
  - THE COURT: All right. You're just beating this to
  - death, Mr. Lopez. Why don't you move onto a different topic.
  - 17 Q. Mr. Hernandez Miguel, do you consider yourself an honest
  - 18 person?
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
- 10:28AM 20 THE COURT: All right. I'll allow this, but you need
  - 21 to move onto a different topic, Mr. Lopez.
  - 22 A. When all of us who are in MS-13, when we are in MS-13,
  - 23 | we're not honest-honest.
  - Q. Mr. Hernandez Miguel, would you lie to avoid a long prison
  - 25 sentence?

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1 A. No.
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- Q. Now, I think you've testified that you were not a drug
- 3 dealer?
- 4 A. I don't understand the question.
- 5 Q. Well, did you or did you not sell cocaine to others?
- 6 A. I did not sell cocaine. I would be paid \$100.
- 7 Q. And that was with the deals you did with Pelon?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. So, Pelon made you do it?
- 10:30AM 10 A. No.
  - 11 THE COURT: All right. Let's take our break.
  - 12 THE CLERK: All rise.
  - 13 (JURORS EXITED THE COURTROOM.)
  - 14 (A recess was taken.)
  - 15 THE CLERK: All rise for the jury.
  - 16 (JURORS ENTERED THE COURTROOM.)
  - 17 THE CLERK: Thank you. You may be seated. Court is
  - 18 now back in session.
  - 19 THE COURT: Mr. Lopez.
- MR. LOPEZ: Thank you, your Honor.
  - 21 Q. When we left, Mr. Hernandez Miquel, I was asking you about
  - 22 your involvement with selling cocaine.
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - Q. And I think you testified that you only sold -- or strike
  - 25 | that -- you didn't sell cocaine but that you would get \$100

- 1 from Pelon when you provided him with security during his drug
- 2 transactions?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And you understand you're under oath?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And you're required to tell the truth?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And if you don't tell the truth, the government can decide
- 9 | not to give you the benefit of your plea agreement, right?
- 10:50AM 10 A. Yes.
  - 11 Q. Or your cooperation agreement?
  - 12 A. Yes.
  - 13 Q. So I ask you during the time you were a member of
  - 14 | Eastside, did you supply MS-13 gang members with cocaine in the
  - amounts of \$40 bags and \$100 bags?
  - THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, \$40 or --
  - 17 MR. LOPEZ: -- \$100.
  - 18 A. Sometimes I had some and I used it and sometimes I was
  - 19 there when others were there and they also used it.
- 10:51AM 20 | Q. But did you sell it to other gang members in the amounts
  - 21 of \$40 bags and \$100 bags?
  - 22 A. I don't recall having sold it. I do recall that we used
  - 23 it.
  - Q. And would you typically, after a drug customer called you
  - 25 | to place an order, call a runner to deliver drugs and collect

- 1 the money?
- THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, could you repeat the
- 3 question for the interpreter?
- 4 MR. LOPEZ: Yes.
- 5 Q. Would you typically, after a drug customer called you to
- 6 place an order, call a runner to deliver drugs to the customer
- 7 and collect your money?
- 8 A. I don't understand the question.
- 9 Q. Well, did you use a runner to sell drugs?
- 10:52AM 10 A. I've never sold drugs.
  - 11 Q. Never, ever?
  - 12 A. No. We did use drugs.
  - 13 Q. Now, do you know a man by the name of Mauricio Sanchez?
  - 14 A. Yes, that's Tigre.
  - 15 Q. That's Tigre. And starting in the summer of 2015, did you
  - 16 begin supplying him with cocaine?
  - 17 A. We used drugs with him as well.
  - 18 | O. Well, didn't Mr. Sanchez or Tigre pick up \$40 and \$80 bags
  - 19 of cocaine from your residence?
- 10:53AM 20 A. Not that I can recall.
  - Q. So you didn't sell Tigre \$40 and \$80 bags of cocaine in
  - 22 | the summer of 2015?
  - 23 A. Not that I can recall.
  - 24 Q. And who's Chentino?
  - 25 A. Vincentino.

- 1 Q. Vincentino?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And did you use Vincentino as your runner?
- 4 A. Not that I can recall.
- 5 Q. You don't have any memory of that?
- 6 A. Vincentino, no.
- 7 Q. Well, did you -- did he go by both names, Chentino and
- 8 Vincentino?
- 9 A. I know him as Vincentino.
- 10:54AM 10 Q. And during the summer of 2015, did you provide him with
  - 11 | five or six \$40 bags of cocaine on a weekly basis to supply
  - 12 your customers?
  - 13 A. Not that I can recall.
  - 14 Q. And if I told you that Tigre told that to the
  - 15 government --
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
  - 17 Q. -- during one of its proffers?
  - 18 THE COURT: Well, sustained.
  - 19 Q. Now, during the time that you weren't selling cocaine, you
- 10:55AM 20 | learned ways not to be held responsible, right?
  - 21 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 22 Q. Well, I think you said that you didn't use Vincentino as a
  - 23 runner, right?
  - 24 A. Vincentino has never been a runner. The runners are
  - 25 | Casper and Playa.

- 1 Q. The runner for your drug operation, your delivery boy?
- 2 A. I don't know.
- 3 Q. You didn't use a delivery boy in your drug operation?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. And you didn't use a delivery boy to avoid responsibility
- 6 | in case he got caught with the drugs?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. In case he got caught with your drugs?
- 9 A. Not that I can recall.
- 10:57AM 10 Q. Now, one of the other ways that you tried to avoid being
  - 11 held responsible for things you did was to use false names,
  - 12 right?
  - 13 A. No, I used a name for work.
  - 14 Q. So the only reason you used a false name was for work?
  - 15 A. I used it to work.
  - 16 Q. And what name did you use for work?
  - 17 A. I don't remember.
  - 18 | O. Was it Jose Hernandez?
  - 19 A. That's my name.
- 10:57AM 20 Q. Was it Jose Damian Hernandez Miguel?
  - 21 A. That's my name.
  - 22 Q. Was it Jose Miguel Hernandez?
  - 23 A. That's my name.
  - Q. Was it Jose Damian Hernandez?
  - 25 A. That's my name.

- 1 Q. Was it Jose Miguel?
- 2 A. That's also my name.
- 3 Q. Those are all your names?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And you use all of those names?
- 6 A. Well, that's my name. Why wouldn't I use it?
- 7 Q. Now, during your life of crime, you've tried to avoid
- 8 situations where you would get involved with confidential
- 9 informants?
- 10:58AM 10 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 11 O. Well --
  - 12 THE COURT: Ask it in a non-argumentative way and
  - maybe you'll make some headway, Mr. Lopez.
  - 14 Q. Well, you testified that MS had rules with respect to
  - 15 | confidential informants?
  - 16 A. Yes.
  - 17 Q. And did you have an understanding as to whether or not you
  - 18 | should work with confidential informants?
  - 19 A. I don't understand.
- 10:59AM 20 | Q. Do you know what a confidential informant is?
  - 21 A. Yes.
  - 22 Q. And in this case, Pelon was working with the government as
  - 23 | a confidential informant, right?
  - 24 A. Yes.
  - 25 Q. And you became friends with him, right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Really good friends?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Like best friends?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And you introduced him to Mr. Guzman?
- 7 A. I didn't introduce them. I went to hang out and he also
- 8 arrived.
- 9 Q. Did you bring Pelon to the Eastside clique?
- 11:00AM 10 | A. No, I got there and I was hanging out with Pelon. I would
  - 11 go where Pelon went. We were always together and the dudes
  - 12 always saw him with me and so they started taking his phone
  - 13 | number and then he started going out with all of them. One day
  - 14 I arrived to the garage with Pelon --
  - MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, I move to strike what he's
  - 16 talking about now.
  - 17 THE COURT: I think he's answering the question.
  - MR. LOPEZ: Well, the question was did he bring him to
  - 19 the clique?
- 11:01AM 20 THE COURT: And he's explaining, you interrupted when
  - 21 he said one day I arrived to the garage with Pelon, and then
  - 22 you interrupted him, so I'll let him continue.
  - 23 O. Finish, sir.
  - 24 A. One day I arrived to the garage with Pelon and the dudes
  - 25 | were there hanging out, and several already knew him, so Casper

- grabbed him and said we have to jump this guy in, and so Casper
- 2 jumped him in. I never told him to jump him in.
- 3 Q. I don't believe I asked you that question, but so are you
- 4 saying the very first time you saw Pelon at a clique meeting,
- 5 he was jumped in?
- 6 A. No, that's not what I'm saying.
- 7 Q. In fact, you wanted him to be jumped into the Eastside
- 8 | clique, right?
- 9 A. At no time did I speak with the runners about jumping him
- 11:02AM 10 | in. The runner jumped him in because he wanted to. He said
  - 11 | that he was ready to be jumped in. And Pelon said no, no,
  - don't jump me in, later, but he jumped him in right then and
  - 13 there.
  - 14 Q. So, sir, if I'm understanding you correctly, Pelon was
  - 15 known to members of the clique before you brought him there,
  - 16 correct?
  - 17 A. He was hanging out with me, Pelon, and because of that,
  - 18 the dudes in the clique met him.
  - 19 Q. And according to you, you were indifferent about whether
- 11:03AM 20 | he should be jumped in, right?
  - 21 A. I didn't care if they jumped him in or not.
  - 22 | Q. Now, at that point in time was he your best friend?
  - 23 A. He was with me.
  - 24 Q. And I think you said you brought him to the meeting,
  - 25 | right?

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1
            Α.
                 I never took him to the meeting. When I took him there,
            the dudes were just hanging out at the garage.
       2.
       3
                 How did you feel when you found out he was a government
       4
            informant?
       5
                     MR. POHL: Objection.
                     THE COURT: Sustained.
       6
                                              Sustained.
                 Did you feel betrayed?
       7
            0.
                     MR. POHL: Objection.
       8
                     THE COURT: Sustained.
       9
                     MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, may I approach?
11:04AM 10
      11
                     THE COURT: All right.
      12
                     (THE FOLLOWING OCCURRED AT SIDEBAR:)
      1.3
                     THE COURT:
                                Yes.
      14
                     MR. LOPEZ: I believe I'm allowed to probe his state
      1.5
            of mind, his bias, and his motives here.
      16
                     THE COURT: His bias against whom, against Pelon?
      17
                     MR. LOPEZ: Against Pelon and against the Eastside
      18
            clique.
      19
                     THE COURT: Mr. Pohl.
11:05AM 20
                     MR. POHL: I don't know. Pelon's not a witness.
      21
            don't know what the relevance of his bias is, and I don't think
      22
            there's been any demonstration that he's biased against anyone.
      23
                     THE COURT: All right. I'll allow it. There's so
            much here about this witness' subjective feelings and things
      24
      25
            that are not relevant, and it's a little distracting, but I
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- 1 | will allow this. When you ask witnesses an argumentative
- 2 question on cross, you're likely to get an argumentative answer
- 3 or an evasive answer. And, you know, if that's your strategy,
- 4 it's all right, but it's really repetitive and difficult to
- 5 listen to sometimes, but I'll allow this.
- 6 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you, your Honor.
- 7 (SIDEBAR CONFERENCE WAS CONCLUDED)
- 8 THE COURT: All right, go ahead, Mr. Lopez. I'll
- 9 allow it. Overruled.
- 11:06AM 10 Q. Did you feel betrayed?
  - 11 A. I realized it when I was arraigned here, I realized it was
  - 12 him.
  - 13 Q. And did you feel betrayed?
  - 14 A. At that moment, I didn't understand why he had done that.
  - 15 Q. Now, you testified that in 2009 you were deported back to
  - 16 | El Salvador?
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 Q. And you came back with the help of a coyote?
  - 19 A. I came by myself, but at the border, I paid a coyote to
- 11:07AM 20 cross over.
  - 21 Q. And did you go through Guatemala?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 O. And Mexico?
  - 24 A. Yes.
  - 25 | Q. Have you ever told anyone that you were born in Guatemala?

- A. Not as far as I can recall, I never said that.
- 2 Q. What about Honduras?
- 3 A. No.

1

- 4 Q. What about the United States?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 | Q. Have you ever told anyone you were an American citizen?
- 7 A. Not that I can recall. Had I been a citizen, I wouldn't
- 8 have been deported.
- 9 Q. Now, you've been asked a lot of questions about the 11:08AM 10 proffer agreement that you signed in May of 2016, and
  - 11 essentially you understood that by signing that agreement,
  - which was marked as Exhibit 48, anything that you told the
  - agents or the U.S. Attorney's Office couldn't be used against
  - 14 you, right?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - MR. LOPEZ: If I could have a moment, your Honor. I'm trying not to repeat what's already been asked.
  - 18 THE COURT: Yes.
- Q. Now, in your October 2016 proffer, did you tell the government that you were not required to kill to become a homeboy?
  - A. One has to attack somebody to gain respect from the homeboys.
  - Q. Sir, the question I asked you is whether or not you told the government that you did not have to kill in order to be a

- 1 homeboy?
- 2 A. I don't remember.
- 3 Q. Right. I'll come back to that. Now, you testified that
- 4 you came to Mass in 2004 after your sister's husband died?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Do you know when he died?
- 7 A. I don't remember.
- 8 Q. Did you attend the funeral?
- 9 A. No.
- 11:10AM 10 Q. When you came to Massachusetts in 2004, were you living
  - 11 | with your sister?
  - 12 A. Yes.
  - 13 Q. And I think you testified that around some time later you
  - 14 | met Mr. Guzman for the first time?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. And he did not introduce himself as a runner, right?
  - 17 A. At that time he did not tell me he was a runner.
  - 18 Q. Okay. And if he was, the rules of the gang would have
  - 19 required him to tell you that, right?
- 11:11AM 20 | A. Well, the main runner was Casper and he did tell me that
  - 21 he was a runner.
  - 22 Q. Let me try again. As far as you knew, the rules of the
  - 23 gang would have required to introduce himself as a runner if he
  - 24 was, in fact, the runner, right?
  - 25  $\mid$  A. The runner was Casper. He was the main person.

- 1 Q. So, are you distinguishing between Mr. Sandoval as the
- 2 runner and Mr. Guzman as the runner?
- 3 A. Yes, because there's the runner and then there's the
- 4 second one.
- 5 Q. And during your testimony in this case, you referred to
- 6 them as the runner in the singular?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And the runners in the plural?
- 9 A. Runners. Casper is the first and Playa is the second.
- 11:13AM 10 Q. Were you present when Mr. Guzman became the second?
  - 11 A. No.
  - 12 Q. So you're relying upon what other people told you about
  - 13 his status, right?
  - 14 A. How would I not know since I was a member of the Eastside?
  - 15 How would I not know who runs the clique?
  - 16 Q. Sir, were you present when he became the second in
  - 17 | command?
  - 18 A. No.
  - 19 Q. And in --
- 11:13AM 20 A. Because when I arrived, he was already a runner.
  - 21 Q. When you arrived in 2004?
  - 22 A. No, when I took the word with them.
  - 23 Q. But in 2004, if he was second in command, the rules of
  - MS-13 would have required him to announce his status, correct?
  - 25 A. No, because the main one who's first is the principal and

- 1 he is the one that has to identify himself. The second one is
- 2 there in case the first one is not.
- 3 | Q. But I thought you testified on direct that when members
- 4 meet each other, they tell each other their name and their
- 5 status, right?
- 6 A. No, you say the alias.
- 7 Q. And you don't tell your other members whether you're a
- 8 | homeboy, a paro, or a chequeo?
- 9 A. One says it because if you flash the Mara sign, then
- 11:15AM 10 you're in the Mara, in MS. If one is not in MS, one cannot
  - 11 greet another dude with the flashings of the MS.
  - 12 Q. So if one is in MS and he's meeting another MS member who
  - 13 he hasn't met before, he tells him his name and his status in
  - 14 | the gang; be that homeboy, paro, or chequeo?
  - 15 A. One says from what clique one is.
  - 16 Q. In addition to what clique they're from --
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 Q. -- do they also tell you whether or not they are first or
  - 19 | second in command?
- 11:16AM 20 A. On that occasion, that did not happen. When Casper
  - 21 introduced him, he did because Curly had also told him.
  - 22 Q. So, to be clear, in 2004, when you first met Mr. Guzman,
  - 23 | he did not tell you he was second in command, right?
  - 24 A. I don't remember.
  - 25 Q. You don't remember?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. Do you remember when you came here in 2004?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. Was it in the beginning of the year?
- 5 A. I don't remember.
- 6 Q. End of the year?
- 7 A. I don't remember.
- 8 Q. You testified that you stayed in Massachusetts for six or
- 9 seven months?
- 11:17AM 10 A. No, what I said was that I went back and forth from
  - 11 Los Angeles to here and that I had remained permanently in
  - 12 2007.
  - 13 Q. So, between 2004, when you first came here, and 2007, how
  - 14 many times did you go back and forth?
  - 15 A. About two times, maybe three.
  - 16 Q. The last time that you went back to California, what year
  - 17 | was it?
  - 18 A. I think it was around 2006.
  - 19 Q. But you testified that you returned to Massachusetts two
- 11:18AM 20 | years later, right?
  - 21 A. I said that I was in between, back and forth, during that
  - 22 | period of time from Massachusetts to L.A., and in 2007 I
  - 23 | remained permanently in Massachusetts.
  - 24 O. When in 2007?
  - 25 A. I don't remember.

- 1 Q. You don't remember the date?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Do you remember the month?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Do you remember the season?
- 6 A. I think it might have been summer.
- 7 Q. And you said that at some point you saw Mr. Guzman again?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And do you remember when that was?
- 11:19AM 10 A. I think the first time I saw him again was in Everett at
  - 11 Tecolote's.
  - 12 Q. And do you remember when that was?
  - 13 A. No, I don't.
  - 14 O. How about the month?
  - 15 A. No, I don't remember the month, but it was a short while
  - 16 after I had returned.
  - 17 Q. And at some point I think you testified that Mr. Sandoval
  - asked you to start hanging out with the Eastside clique?
  - 19 A. Yes.
- 11:20AM 20 | Q. And you started hanging out with them?
  - 21 A. Yes.
  - 22 O. When was that?
  - 23 A. I think it was around 2008.
  - Q. What month?
  - 25 A. I don't remember.

- 1 Q. Early 2008?
- 2 A. I don't remember the month.
- 3 Q. Do you remember the season?
- 4 A. It was during the summer.
- 5 Q. So there wasn't any snow on the ground?
- 6 A. I don't remember.
- 7 Q. But you do remember the conversation you had with
- 8 Mr. Guzman -- I mean, with Mr. Sandoval, right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 11:21AM 10 Q. And when you had that conversation, were you alone with
  - 11 him?
  - 12 A. No, there were a whole bunch of dudes hanging out there.
  - 13 Q. And were you drinking when you were hanging out?
  - 14 A. Smoking and also drinking.
  - 15 Q. Smoking marijuana?
  - 16 A. Yes.
  - 17 Q. And drinking alcohol?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. And were you doing cocaine as well?
- 11:22AM 20 A. I don't remember.
  - 21 Q. Well, you testified earlier that you used to bring cocaine
  - 22 | and share it with others?
  - 23 A. Which year are you referring to?
  - 24 Q. The year that you say this conversation occurred.
  - 25 | A. Yeah, but that doesn't mean that wherever I went I was

- 1 | handing cocaine out to everybody.
- 2 Q. So you then say that at some point later, you
- 3 were -- strike that. You then get deported, right?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And you didn't become -- at the time you were deported,
- 6 were you already a homeboy?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Of the Eastside clique?
- 9 A. I had the word with Eastside clique.
- 11:23AM 10 Q. And when did that happen?
  - 11 A. A few days after I spoke with Casper because I used to
  - 12 hang out with the dudes in Somerville, and Casper asked me why
  - wouldn't I take the word with the Eastsides since my clique was
  - 14 not in Boston that I should take the word with the Eastsides.
  - 15 Q. And what day did that conversation occur?
  - 16 A. Like I told you, it was around summertime.
  - 17 Q. Well, what month in the summer?
  - 18 A. I don't know what month it was.
  - 19 Q. Where did the conversation take place?
- 11:24AM 20 A. At Tecolote's house.
  - 21 Q. And you say you don't remember the month, but it might
  - 22 have been some time in the summer?
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - Q. Now, you also testified that after you became a member,
  - 25 | there were meetings that were held on a regular basis?

- 1 A. After I had the word with the Eastsides?
- 2 Q. Yes.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And sometimes they were once a month?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Sometimes they were twice a month?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And sometimes they were every week?
- 9 A. When there was an issue with one of the dudes, it would be
- 11:25AM 10 more often.
  - 11 Q. And what year were these meetings taking place?
  - 12 A. Which year?
  - 13 Q. Yes.
  - 14 A. MS-13 does meetings all the time, not just every year.
  - 15 Q. So, in 2008 these meetings were being held?
  - 16 A. Yes.
  - 17 | Q. And in 2009?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. Now, you were deported in 2009, right?
- 11:26AM 20 A. Yes.
  - 21 Q. And I think Mr. Murphy asked you if you knew when you were
  - 22 | arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement?
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - Q. Do you remember the date of your arrest?
  - 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. Do you remember where you were?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Where were you?
- 4 A. In East Boston with the Everetts.
- 5 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, with the -- on Everett
- 6 Street.
- 7 A. On Everett Street.
- 8 Q. Because you lived on Everett Street?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 11:27AM 10 Q. What number Everett Street?
  - 11 A. 87.
  - 12 Q. And they came to your house?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. Were you living there alone?
  - 15 A. With my sister.
  - 16 Q. And they took you away?
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 Q. And how long did they hold you before they deported you?
  - 19 A. I don't remember.
- 11:27AM 20 Q. Well, do you remember when you arrived in El Salvador in
  - 21 2009?
  - 22 A. I don't remember.
  - 23 O. You don't remember the date?
  - 24 A. No.
  - 25 Q. Do you remember the month?

- 1 A. I think it was July.
- 2 Q. So, it was the summer again?
- 3 A. I think so.
- 4 Q. Now, in 2008, you claim that you beat up a black male in
- 5 front of the Taco Loco on Broadway Street in Somerville. Do
- 6 you remember that?
- 7 A. We had a fight there.
- 8 Q. Because you thought the black male was making hand signals
- 9 at you?
- 11:28AM 10 A. No, we were in Spooky's car. It was myself, Spooky,
  - 11 Caballo, and Demente, and it was Caballo that hit him and
  - 12 Demente.
  - 13 Q. And you didn't notice the police detective across the
  - 14 street when this fight occurred, did you?
  - 15 A. No, we didn't notice that the detective was there.
  - 16 Q. And after the fight, the detective stopped the car you
  - 17 | were in, right?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. But you were not arrested?
- 11:29AM 20 A. They kept us there, they took us out of the car and
  - 21 | checked each one of us, but they only arrested Caballo because
  - 22 they found some knife or knives in his feet.
  - 23 Q. And would it be fair to say that before you were involved
  - 24 | with that assault, you didn't ask permission from Mr. Sandoval
  - 25 to do it?

- 1 A. How could I call him during the fight saying that I'm in a
- 2 fight?
- 3 Q. And you didn't ask Mr. Guzman for permission to be
- 4 involved in that fight?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Now, you also testified that before you were deported,
- 7 that you and Mr. Guzman assaulted a chavala?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you recall the date of this alleged attack?
- 11:30AM 10 A. No.
  - 11 Q. Do you remember the month?
  - 12 A. No, I don't.
  - 13 Q. Do you remember the season?
  - 14 A. It was around summer.
  - 15 Q. So, did this assault occur -- you think it occurred in the
  - 16 summer of 2009?
  - 17 A. It was before I was deported.
  - 18 Q. Six months before you were deported?
  - 19 A. I don't remember.
- 11:31AM 20 Q. But you do recall that you were living in East Boston?
  - 21 A. Yes.
  - 22 Q. Near the Maverick Station?
  - 23 A. Yes.
  - Q. On Everett Street?
  - 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And I think you testified, and I quote, "We had talked to
- 2 Playa." Do you remember testifying to that?
- 3 A. Can you repeat the question? I don't remember that.
- 4 Q. You testified, to be more specific, on February the 6th
- 5 | that, "We had talked to Playa"?
- 6 A. I spoke to Playa that he was going to pick me up to go
- 7 hang out in Revere.
- 8 Q. And you further testified that, "We were going to hang out
- 9 | with the dudes in Revere"?
- 11:33AM 10 A. Yes.
  - 11 Q. Who was the "we"?
  - 12 A. Playa and myself.
  - 13 Q. So when you said "We had talked to Playa," you meant I had
  - 14 talked to Playa?
  - 15 A. Playa picked me up. It was only Playa and myself in the
  - 16 car.
  - 17 | Q. So, when you used the word "we," you meant "I"?
  - 18 A. I said that I had called Playa and that Playa had come to
  - 19 pick me up so that we could go hang out in Revere.
- MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, may I have the Elmo just for
  - 21 the witness.
  - 22 Ms. Huacuja, can you read the first line through the
  - 23 first sentence.
  - THE INTERPRETER: Line 1?
  - 25 MR. LOPEZ: Line 1 through line 4 through the end of

- 1 the sentence.
- Q. Now, sir, do you see that in line 1 you said, and I quote,
- 3 "We had talked with Playa"?
- THE INTERPRETER: Could you tell me which line?
- 5 Q. Starting the last word on the first line, "We had talked
- 6 with Playa." Do you see that, sir?
- 7 A. Yes.

0.

11

- 8 Q. Is that what you said?
- 9 A. I was at home, I was the only one at home, and the only
  11:35AM 10 one that came to pick me up was Playa.
- - 12 A. What I said was that I had spoken to Playa so that we
  - 13 would go hang out in Revere.
  - 14 Q. Sir, did you say, quote, "We had talked with Playa"?
  - 15 A. How would I say "we" if only "I" was there?

Is that what you said, sir?

- 16 Q. So you're saying the transcript is inaccurate?
- 17 A. I don't know.
- 18 Q. In any event, you also said, and I quote, "We were going
- 19 to hang out with the dudes in Revere, " right?
- 11:36AM 20 A. Yes.
  - 21 Q. And, again, when you used the word "nosotros," you meant
  - 22 "I"?
  - 23 A. I don't understand the question.
  - Q. When you used the word "we," you meant "I"?
  - 25 | A. The two of us were going -- it was Playa and myself.

- 1 Q. So the point is that it was just you and Mr. Guzman?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. No one else?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. There was no "we," there was no third person?
- THE COURT: You've asked this question many, many
- 7 times. Let's move on.
- 8 MR. LOPEZ: There is a point, your Honor.
- 9 Q. There was no third person that was with you and Mr. Guzman
- at the time that this alleged assault occurred, correct?
  - 11 A. Only the two of us.
  - 12 Q. And you testified that before you left Boston going
  - 13 towards Revere, under some bridges, you saw a chavala walking
  - 14 | all dressed in red, right?
  - 15 A. We saw him because he was walking down the street.
  - 16 Q. But you said that you were heading from East Boston going
  - 17 | towards Revere?
  - 18 A. Yes.
  - 19 Q. Under some bridges?
- 11:38AM 20 A. Yes.
  - 21 Q. Bridges, meaning more than one?
  - 22 A. Yes, because down there, there are bridges.
  - 23 Q. And you testified that this assault took place under those
  - 24 bridges?
  - 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Now, can you describe what it looked like under the
- 2 bridges where you say this attack occurred?
- 3 A. We were going, heading towards Revere, and the chavala ran
- 4 from the street he was on towards some bridges that were over
- 5 there.
- 6 Q. Some bridges, plural?
- 7 A. A bridge where cars go over.
- 8 Q. And what did it look like underneath the bridge?
- 9 A. What do you mean?
- 11:39AM 10 Q. What did you observe underneath the bridge?
  - 11 A. The chavala that was walking there.
  - 12 Q. Well, did you observe any cars under the bridge?
  - 13 A. I don't remember.
  - 14 Q. A parking lot?
  - 15 A. I think so.
  - 16 Q. Concrete?
  - 17 A. Yes, I think so.
  - Q. Can you describe for me based on your memory from that day
  - 19 what underneath the bridge looked like?
- 11:40AM 20 | A. The foundations there when we followed the chavala, the
  - 21 chavala took off running, and he tried to get under a bridge
  - 22 | that was over there, and there's like cement there and all
  - 23 that.
  - Q. And you caught up to him underneath the bridges?
  - 25 A. I think it was before going in there because the guy took

- off running, but he was running towards where the bridges were.
- 2 Q. And when you caught up to him, was he under the bridges?
- 3 A. He was running towards the -- underneath the bridge, the
- 4 bridge was above.
- 5 Q. Now, I notice during your direct that you didn't testify
- 6 as to the type of car Mr. Guzman was driving on that day when
- 7 you say he picked you up, right?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Now, in preparing for your testimony in this case, did you
- discuss the type of car that Mr. Guzman was driving?
  - 11 A. I don't remember.
  - 12 Q. In any event, you were in Mr. Guzman's car?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. And you saw a chavala?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. And you said "That's a chavala"?
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 Q. And then you said to Mr. Guzman, "We have to attack him"?
  - 19 A. I said, "There's a chavala, let's get him."
- 11:42AM 20 | Q. And you told Mr. Guzman to pull over?
  - 21 A. Before we reached the stop sign -- when we reached the
  - 22 | stop sign, I opened the door. He got out on his own account.
  - 23 I didn't tell him to stop.
  - Q. So you didn't tell Mr. Guzman to pull over?
  - 25 | A. I told him, "Let's get the chavala."

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1
                So you didn't say to him, you didn't tell him to pull
       2.
            over?
                 Well, if I said, "Let's get the chavala," in effect I was
       3
            Α.
            saying let's stop the car.
       4
       5
                     MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, can I have the Elmo for the
       6
            witness again.
       7
                     Ms. Huacuja, can you read line 9 beginning with the
       8
            word "and."
       9
                     THE INTERPRETER: Should I go to the next line?
                     MR. LOPEZ: No, just that line.
11:44AM 10
      11
                     THE INTERPRETER: Okay.
      12
                 Ms. Huacuja read that line to you?
            Q.
      13
            Α.
                Yes.
      14
                 And does that line say, "So I told Playa to pull over"?
      15
            Α.
                Yes.
      16
                So you did tell him to pull over?
            Q.
      17
                 I told him, "Let's get the chavala," and when we came to
            the stop sign, he had to stop, and I said, "Let's get him."
      18
      19
            Q.
                 So, you then chased the chavala?
11:44AM 20
            Α.
                 Yes.
      21
                And he tried to run away under the bridges?
            Q.
      22
            Α.
                Yes.
```

THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, when you say "you," do

23

24

25

Ο.

you --

You caught him?

- 1 Q. You, meaning Mr. --
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And you smashed his face with a bottle?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And you testified that the chavala was on the floor when
- 6 Mr. Guzman came and hit him with a bottle as well?
- 7 A. Yes, and also with the feet, with his feet.
- 8 Q. So, you hit him with one beer bottle?
- 9 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry?
- 11:45AM 10 Q. You, Mr. Hernandez Miguel, hit him with one beer bottle?
  - 11 A. Yes.
  - 12 Q. And you claim that Mr. Guzman also hit him with one beer
  - 13 bottle?
  - 14 A. Yes.
  - 15 Q. Now, this assault you said took place under some bridges?
  - 16 A. Yes.
  - 17 Q. More than one bridge?
  - 18 A. I don't know how many bridges there are there. I just saw
  - 19 that there were bridges.
- 11:46AM 20 | Q. So you're not sure if it was more than one bridge?
  - 21 A. There's a bridge overhead that goes towards Revere coming
  - 22 out of the highway.
  - 23 Q. And it was a bridge to Revere?
  - 24 A. Yes.
  - 25 Q. Do you know the name of the bridge where this assault took

- 1 place, allegedly took place?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 | Q. Now, in your October proffer, you said that Mr. Guzman was
- 4 driving a Toyota SUV. Do you remember saying that?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And you knew that pursuant to the proffer, you were
- 7 required to tell the government everything you knew?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. All the details you knew?
- 11:47AM 10 A. Yes.
  - 11 Q. Because you knew they'd be relying upon you, right?
  - 12 A. Yes.
  - 13 Q. And you told them that Mr. Guzman was driving the Toyota?
  - 14 A. I said it was an SUV. Maybe it was a Toyota, maybe it was
  - 15 a Honda, but it was definitely an SUV.
  - MR. LOPEZ: May I have the document camera for the
  - 17 witness, your Honor.
  - 18 Q. Now, I think you just said that it was a sports utility
  - 19 vehicle?
- 11:48AM 20 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry.
  - 21 Q. An SUV, a sports utility vehicle?
  - 22 A. It was a closed vehicle like that.
  - 23 O. Was it an SUV?
  - 24 A. Yes.
  - 25 Q. Was it a Toyota?

- 1 A. I'm not sure if it was a Toyota or what, but it was
- 2 definitely an SUV.
- 3 Q. But you told the government in October, 2016, more than a
- 4 year from today, that it was a Toyota sports utility vehicle,
- 5 | didn't you?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Do you recall what model SUV?
- 8 A. I don't know a lot about cars. I don't know what model
- 9 SUV it was.
- 11:50AM 10 Q. So you can't tell us whether it was a 4runner?
  - 11 A. 4runner, no, I don't know.
  - 12 O. Or Rav4?
  - 13 A. It was something like that. I don't know much about cars.
  - 14 Q. A Highlander?
  - MR. POHL: Objection, your Honor.
  - 16 THE COURT: All right.
  - 17 Q. Do you know what model year it was?
  - 18 A. No.
  - 19 Q. Do you remember the color?
- 11:50AM 20 | A. I recall it was like a cream color.
  - 21 Q. Cream?
  - 22 A. Yeah, like a tan, cream color.
  - 23 Q. What if I told you Mr. Guzman didn't own a Toyota in --
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
  - THE COURT: Sustained, sustained.

- 1 Q. Now, do you know whether or not --
- THE COURT: Mr. Lopez, let me caution you, okay.
- 3 You're not a witness.
- 4 Q. Do you know whether or not Mr. Guzman owned an Infinity in
- 5 2008?
- 6 A. I don't know.
- 7 Q. Now, in October, 2016, you said that this assault took
- 8 | place under a bridge between East Boston and Winthrop, right?
- 9 A. Yes, at the entrance going towards Revere.
- 11:51AM 10 Q. The entrance, it was a bridge from East Boston to Winthrop
  - 11 heading toward Revere?
  - 12 A. No, there's a bridge that goes to Revere, and there's a
  - 13 | stop sign there, and then at the stop sign, you turn left and
  - 14 | if you go in there, you go towards Revere.
  - 15 Q. But that's not what you told the government in October of
  - 16 2016, was it?
  - 17 A. I don't remember.
  - 18 | Q. Well, you told them that the assault took place under a
  - 19 bridge between East Boston and Winthrop, right?
- 11:52AM 20 A. Winthrop is far away from where we were. I said it had
  - 21 occurred at the exit where one takes -- goes towards Revere.
  - 22 | Q. Well, look at the document and see the last line that I've
  - 23 highlighted.
  - 24 THE INTERPRETER: Should the interpreter read it?
  - 25 | Q. Well, let me just -- and this is -- see on the first page,

- 1 it says, "October 14, 2016," and it talks about you being
- 2 interviewed, and there were assistant U.S. attorneys there and
- 3 | FBI agents there and State Police there, and they were taking
- 4 down what you said, and Ms. Huacuja was interpreting what you
- 5 said.
- 6 MR. LOPEZ: And could you read him the line that I've
- 7 highlighted.
- 8 Q. Did you tell them that the assault took place under a
- 9 bridge between East Boston and Winthrop?
- 11:54AM 10 A. I said that the attack had been there at the exit between
  - 11 East Boston and Revere.
  - 12 Q. So, the agents took down their notes incorrectly?
  - 13 A. I don't know.
  - 14 Q. And Ms. Huacuja didn't interpret what you said correctly?
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
  - 16 THE COURT: He cannot answer that question, as you
  - 17 know, Mr. Lopez.
  - 18 Q. Because you agree that the report says that you said the
  - 19 assault took place under a bridge between East Boston and
- 11:55AM 20 Winthrop, right?
  - 21 A. The attack occurred in the exit that goes towards Revere.
  - 22 Q. Do you know how many bridges run or connect East Boston to
  - 23 | Winthrop?
  - 24 A. I don't know.
  - 25 Q. Do you know if there's more than one bridge that connects

- 1 | East Boston to Winthrop?
- 2 A. I think there's only one.
- 3 Q. Do you know the name of the bridge that connects East
- 4 Boston to Winthrop?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Do you know the name of the street that connects East
- 7 Boston to Winthrop?
- 8 A. Bennington Street, I think.
- 9 Q. You're not sure?
- 11:56AM 10 A. No.
  - 11 Q. Have you ever been on the bridge that connects East Boston
  - 12 to Winthrop?
  - 13 A. I know that the attack occurred by the station to Rhode
  - 14 Island, the blue line.
  - 15 | Q. But you told the government in October of 2016 that the
  - 16 assault took place under a bridge between East Boston and
  - 17 | Winthrop?
  - 18 A. No, I said I had run -- I said that what had happened had
  - 19 occurred at the exit from East Boston to Revere under a bridge.
- 11:57AM 20 | Q. And you've just testified that there's only one bridge
  - 21 between East Boston and Winthrop, right?
  - 22 A. I don't know if it's to Winthrop or East Boston, that
  - 23 | bridge. I just know that it's by that station.
  - MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, may I have the Elmo for the
  - 25 witness.

- 1 Q. Sir, do you recognize that bridge?
- 2 A. You can't see the bridge here.
- 3 Q. You can't see that bridge, sir?
- 4 A. Yeah, I see that bridge.
- 5 Q. Do you know whether that bridge is the Saratoga Street
- 6 Bridge?
- 7 A. I don't know.
- 8 Q. Do you know whether that's the only bridge that connects
- 9 East Boston to Winthrop?
- 11:59AM 10 MR. POHL: Objection.
  - 11 THE COURT: Overruled.
  - 12 A. I don't know.
  - 13 Q. And you would agree with me at least with respect to this
  - 14 picture that underneath that bridge is only a body of water?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. And you don't recognize that as the bridge from East
  - 17 Boston to Winthrop?
  - 18 A. I don't know.
  - MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, may I approach?
- 12:00PM 20 THE COURT: Let me take a break. You mean approach
  - 21 sidebar?
  - 22 MR. LOPEZ: I was going to approach sidebar. We can
  - 23 do it at the break.
  - 24 THE COURT: Let's approach sidebar while we take our
  - 25 break.

1 THE CLERK: All rise. (THE FOLLOWING OCCURRED AT SIDEBAR:) 2. MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, I'd like to admit this picture 3 notwithstanding the witness' reluctance to give me a 4 5 foundation. I believe you can take judicial notice of it. 6 It's a readily ascertainable fact, and under Rule 201, I think we're able to do that. I think the jury should see. 7 THE COURT: Mr. Pohl. 8 MS. LAWRENCE: I don't know what the relevance of this 9 12:01PM 10 bridge is because the defendant hasn't given any foundation for 11 recognizing it as the bridge. But for what it's worth, I don't 12 think there's any dispute that that's where he says the assault 13 took place. 14 THE COURT: It's on the boarder of judicial notice 1.5 since I have no familiarity with the area, but it seems to me 16 you can stipulate like that so you don't have to call them. 17 MS. LAWRENCE: We don't want to do that. We only 18 object for relevancy. 19 THE COURT: I'll admit it with that objection. 12:02PM 20 (SIDEBAR CONFERENCE WAS CONCLUDED) 21 ( A recess was taken.) 22 THE CLERK: All rise for the jury. 23 (JURORS ENTERED THE COURTROOM.) 24 THE CLERK: Thank you. You may be seated. Court is now back in session. 25

- THE COURT: Mr. Lopez.
- MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, I move to admit the photo.
- THE CLERK: The next number would be 227.
- 4 THE COURT: 227. All right. It's admitted. 227.
- 5 (Exhibit No. 227 received into evidence.)
- 6 MR. LOPEZ: Can I show it to the jury, your Honor?
- 7 THE COURT: Yes.
- Q. Sir, do you know whether or not that is the only bridge that connects East Boston --
- 12:16PM 10 THE COURT: You've asked him that. It's really quite 11 repetitive.
  - MR. LOPEZ: That's fine, your Honor.
  - 13 Q. Now, you also testified about an assault that took place
  - 14 | near the Mayerick Station in East Boston?
  - 15 A. Yes.
  - 16 Q. And you participated in that attack by using a bat?
  - 17 A. Yes.
  - 18 Q. And I think you were asked on cross-examination whether
  - 19 you took Exhibit 50 out of your house, meaning your machete?
- 12:17PM 20 A. I don't understand the question.
  - 21 Q. Okay. Fair enough. I think you testified that you never
  - 22 | took the machete out of your house?
  - 23 A. That machete over there?
  - Q. This machete, Number 50.
  - 25 A. That machete was in the house.

- 1 Q. Did you ever take any machete out of the house?
- 2 A. No, what I had was a yatagan.
- 3 Q. So you didn't typically carry a machete with you?
- 4 A. No, that's why I had a yatagan like this.
- 5 Q. And do you remember during your proffer in October of 2016
- 6 | telling the government that you typically carried a machete?
- 7 A. I carried a yatagan.
- 8 Q. But that you left it home that day because you were going
- 9 to a barbecue with your girlfriend?
- 12:19PM 10 A. I don't remember.
  - 11 Q. You don't remember telling them that?
  - 12 A. I don't remember.
  - MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, document camera for the
  - 14 | witness.
  - Can you read that first sentence that's highlighted,
  - 16 Ms. Huacuja?
  - 17 THE INTERPRETER: Yes.
  - 18 Q. Did you tell the government that you typically carried a
  - 19 machete but that you left it home that day because you were at
- 12:20PM 20 a barbecue with your girlfriend?
  - 21 A. Yes.
  - 22 | Q. Now, you testified that after the attack, you called
  - 23 Mr. Guzman and told him what happened, right?
  - 24 A. Yes.
  - 25 | Q. And you further testified that Mr. Guzman told you to call

- 1 a taxi?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And he would pay for it?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And you called a taxi?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And you told the taxi to take you to Eastern Avenue in
- 8 Chelsea?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 12:20PM 10 Q. Because you knew there was a car wash there?
  - 11 A. Yes.
  - 12 Q. And you testified that Mr. Guzman picked you up there?
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. You testified that Mr. Guzman picked you up in Chelsea,
  - 15 right?
  - 16 A. At the car wash.
  - 17 Q. And I think you also testified that at the time of this
  - 18 attack, Checha's house was in East Boston?
  - 19 A. Yes.
- 12:21PM 20 Q. But you're certain that Mr. Guzman picked you up in
  - 21 Chelsea?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 Q. No doubt in your mind?
  - 24 A. No.
  - 25 Q. And you're certain that you told Mr. Guzman about the

- 1 | assault near the Maverick Station?
- 2 A. That was the reason I went to Eastern Avenue. I told
- 3 Playa that the area was hot and that the police had come to
- 4 Checha's house.
- 5 Q. Sir, let me ask you this. Are you as certain about
- 6 | telling Mr. Guzman about the assault as you are about where he
- 7 | picked you up that night?
- 8 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, could you repeat the last
- 9 part of the question?
- 12:22PM 10 Q. Let me try to break it down. You're -- I'm asking you if
  - 11 | you're certain that you told Mr. Guzman about what happened
  - 12 | that night?
  - 13 A. If I had not said anything to Playa, then why would he be
  - 14 picking me up there?
  - 15 | Q. And I'm asking you if you're as certain about that as you
  - are about where he picked you up that night?
  - 17 MR. POHL: I object to the form of the question, your
  - 18 Honor.
  - 19 THE COURT: It is argumentative, but I'll let it
- 12:23PM 20 stand.
  - 21 A. That's why I went there, that's why I took a taxi because
  - 22 | he said he would pay for the taxi to Eastern Avenue.
  - 23 Q. Well, sir, again, in your October 2016 proffer, you didn't
  - 24 | tell the government and the agents who were taking notes that
  - 25 you were picked up by Mr. Guzman in East Boston -- I mean, in

- 1 | Chelsea, were you? Did you?
- 2 A. (No response)
- 3 Q. And you didn't tell them about the telephone conversation
- 4 you had with Mr. Guzman about calling a taxi and him paying for
- 5 | it and him coming to pick you up, right?
- 6 A. So how was I supposed to get to the car wash then?
- 7 Q. Well, you did tell the agents that approximately 1:00 a.m.
- 8 | the following morning, you called Mr. Guzman to pick you up at
- 9 Checha's house, right?
- 12:24PM 10 | A. At no time did I say to pick me up at Checha's house
  - 11 because it was a hot area, the police were there. How would I
  - 12 be telling him to go pick me up there?
  - 13 Q. If you could just look at the document that I put on the
  - 14 screen.
  - 15 MR. LOPEZ: And Ms. Huacuja, if you could just read
  - 16 the last sentence I've highlighted.
  - 17 Q. Do you remember telling the government that at
  - approximately 1:00 a.m. the following morning, Hernandez Miguel
  - 19 | called Playa to pick him up at Checha's house?
- 12:25PM 20 A. No, I don't recall that. I recall that I told Playa what
  - 21 had happened and that there were police there and that was when
  - 22 Playa told me to call a taxi and that he could pick me up by
  - 23 | the car wash in Chelsea.
  - Q. But you would agree with me that the report that was
  - 25 | written by the agent who was at your interview in October of

- 1 | 2016 wrote down that you said that Playa picked you up at
- 2 Checha's house, right?
- 3 A. I never said to pick me up at Checha's house.
- 4 Q. And you knew during that proffer session that you were
- 5 required to tell the government everything you knew, all the
- 6 details you knew because you knew they would be relying on them
- 7 and you did not say in that proffer session that you told
- 8 Mr. Guzman what happened, did you?
- 9 A. How would I be going to Chelsea if I hadn't told Guzman?
- In that case, I would have just gone home by myself.
  - 11 Q. You did not tell the agents in October of 2016 when
  - 12 telling them about the assault near Maverick Station that you
  - 13 told Mr. Guzman what happened, did you?
  - 14 A. Why would Playa then be paying for the taxi to go there?
  - 15 | O. And you didn't tell them that Playa told you to take a
  - 16 | cab, right?
  - 17 A. Playa told me to take a taxi and that he would pay for it.
  - 18 | Q. And you didn't tell the agents in October, 2016 that
  - 19 Mr. Guzman said he would pay for the cab, right?
- 12:28PM 20 A. I went there because he told me to go there. He told me
  - 21 to go there to the car wash and that he would be waiting for me
  - 22 at the car wash.
  - 23 Q. And you did not tell the agents in October 2016 that he
  - 24 | told you to go to the car wash, right?
  - 25 A. I don't remember.

- 1 Q. And you didn't tell the agents in October, 2016 that
- 2 Mr. Guzman picked you up at the car wash, right?
- 3 A. I spoke with the agents, and I told them what had
- 4 happened.
- 5 Q. And you told the agents at approximately 1:00 a.m. the
- 6 following morning you called Playa to pick you up at Checha's
- 7 house, right?
- 8 A. What I told him was that there were police outside of
- 9 Checha's house knocking on the door, and that's when Playa told
- me to take a taxi and go to the car wash.
  - 11 Q. But you never told that to the government in October of
  - 12 2016?
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
  - 14 THE COURT: It's really quite repetitive. Let's move
  - 15 onto a different topic.
  - 16 Q. Now, you testified about some protection details that you
  - went on. Do you remember that testimony?
  - 18 A. To protect what?
  - 19 Q. Do you remember that testimony?
- 12:30PM 20 | A. You aren't saying what I was protecting.
  - 21 Q. I said you gave some testimony in this case about being
  - 22 involved in protection details where Pelon was selling drugs to
  - 23 undercover police?
  - 24 A. Yes.
  - 25 | Q. And did Mr. Guzman know about that beforehand?

- 1 A. I don't know.
- Q. Did Mr. Guzman refuse to go on those protection details?
- 3 A. He was asked if he wanted to participate, and he said no.
- 4 Q. So he was asked to join in the protection detail and he
- 5 refused?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Now, directing your attention to December 14, 2014, which
- 8 | was the shooting that Vida Loca was involved in. I think you
- 9 testified that you knew before the shooting occurred that you
- 12:32PM 10 knew Vida Loca wanted to kill Mr. Ortiz?
  - 11 A. We were there with Crazy when Vida Loca was calling at the
  - 12 garage.
  - 13 MR. LOPEZ: Could I have a second, your Honor?
  - 14 Q. My question, sir, is did you know before Crazy gave
  - 15 Vida Loca the gun that Vida Loca was going to shoot someone
  - 16 | that night?
  - 17 A. That's why Vida Loca was calling Crazy. I didn't know if
  - 18 he was going to shoot or not.
  - 19 Q. Well, you did testify that he called Crazy and Vida Loca
- 12:34PM 20 | was saying that the 18s were there again and to bring the gun
  - 21 because he was going to shoot them?
  - 22 A. Yes.
  - 23 Q. So you knew before the shooting that it was Vida Loca's
  - 24 intention to shoot someone?
  - 25 | A. It was Crazy's speaking with Vida Loca. I did not know if

- 1 Vida Loca was going to shoot him or not.
- 2 Q. So when you got out of the car, when you asked to be
- 3 dropped off, did you or did you not know that Vida Loca was
- 4 going to shoot someone that night?
- 5 A. I don't know. Only he knew.
- 6 Q. And you would agree that Mr. Guzman did not know
- 7 beforehand, right?
- 8 A. I imagine not.
- 9 Q. Now, you also talked about a stabbing in Highland Park,
- 12:35PM 10 and, trust me, I'm not going to go over what's already been
  - 11 | gone over, focusing only on Mr. Guzman. You testified that
  - 12 | after the stabbing you went to Mr. Guzman's house with Pelon
  - 13 and Domingo, right?
  - 14 A. Yes.
  - 15 Q. And you testified that Mr. Guzman was upset because
  - Domingo was a kid and he wasn't a member of the Eastside
  - 17 | clique?
  - 18 A. What he said was why had we brought Domingo over there,
  - 19 that we shouldn't bring over boys that we don't know.
- 12:36PM 20 | Q. Because you were exposing his home to someone he didn't
  - 21 know, right?
  - 22 | A. I don't know. He opened the door for us because we were
  - 23 MS dudes and I was wounded.
  - Q. And you testified that Mr. Guzman gave you some clothes?
  - 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And that he disposed of the shorts and shirt you were
- 2 wearing during the assault?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. But in your July proffer to the government, you didn't
- 5 mention going to Mr. Guzman's house, did you?
- 6 A. I don't remember.
- 7 Q. And you didn't mention getting clothes from Mr. Guzman,
- 8 did you?
- 9 A. I spoke with the agents about that.
- 12:37PM 10 Q. On that date in July?
  - 11 A. I don't remember if it was that dated, but I did talk to
  - 12 them about it.
  - 13 Q. And in July of 2016, when you were describing the stabbing
  - 14 | that you participated in in Highland Park, you didn't mention
  - 15 | getting clothes from Mr. Guzman that evening, did you?
  - 16 A. I don't remember.
  - 17 Q. And you didn't mention anything about Mr. Guzman agreeing
  - 18 to dispose of your clothing, did you?
  - 19 A. I don't remember that, but I do know that he told me that
- 12:39PM 20 he would take the clothes and throw them away because he worked
  - 21 for the garbage.
  - 22 Q. But you didn't tell the government that in July of 2016,
  - 23 right?
  - 24 A. I don't remember, but I did tell them.
  - 25 Q. In fact, in your July, 2016 proffer, you told the agents

- 1 that you did not talk about the stabbing with Mr. Guzman, didn't you? 2 How would I not have spoken if I went to his house? 3 4 Well, let me show you your proffer report from July, 2016. 0. 5 MR. LOPEZ: And, Ms. Huacuja, if you could read 6 the highlighted portion to Mr. Miguel -- Hernandez Miguel. Would you agree with me, sir, that that report says you 7 did not talk about the stabbing with Playa? 8 How would I not have spoken with Playa about the stabbing 9 if I went to his house and I was wounded? 12:40PM 10 11 My question, sir, is does that report -- does that report 12 say that you did not talk about the stabbing with Playa? 13 Α. I don't understand. 14 Well, the report has been read to you? 1.5 Α. Yes. 16 And the report reads, "Hernandez Miguel" --Q. MR. POHL: Objection. 17 18 THE COURT: Overruled. 19 Q. -- "did not talk about the stabbing with Playa," right? 12:41PM 20 THE INTERPRETER: I thought there was an objection. 21 THE COURT: I've overruled the objection. 22 THE INTERPRETER: Sorry. Could you repeat the
  - Q. Does the report say, "Hernandez Miguel did not talk about the stabbing with Playa"?

question?

- 1 A. The report says that.
- 2 Q. And Playa is Mr. Guzman?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Now, with respect to the East Coast Program, Mr. Guzman
- 5 didn't want to join the East Coast Program, right?
- 6 A. I don't know. It was the clique that had to decide that.
- 7 Q. Well, he was outvoted, right?
- 8 MR. POHL: Objection.
- 9 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 12:42PM 10 A. He was one of the runners.
  - 11 Q. But he was outvoted?
  - 12 A. Everybody votes.
  - 13 Q. And the majority of the clique decided to join, right?
  - 14 A. Yes.
  - 15 Q. And that's because the majority rules in the Eastside
  - 16 clique?
  - 17 A. If someone says they don't want to join but the runners
  - 18 say yes.
  - 19 Q. Mr. Guzman didn't want to join, did he?
- 12:43PM 20 | A. I don't know.
  - 21 Q. And the attempted murder by Animal and Tigre in
  - December of 2015, Mr. Guzman didn't know about that beforehand,
  - 23 did he?
  - 24 A. I don't know.
  - 25 | Q. And jumping in the Animal. Mr. Guzman didn't want him

- 1 | jumped in, did he?
- 2 A. I don't know.
- 3 Q. In fact, many of the clique members didn't want him jumped
- 4 in, right?
- 5 A. Then why was he jumped in? If the runners say we're not
- 6 | jumping him, then they don't jump him, and that's that.
- 7 MR. LOPEZ: Well, if I could just have a second, your
- 8 Honor.

- Q. You do recall meeting with the government in July, 2016?
- MR. POHL: I object to this. We've been over this,
  - 11 your Honor.
  - 12 THE COURT: Overruled.
  - 13 A. Yes.
  - 14 Q. And do you recall telling them that many ESLS members
  - opposed jumping Animal into the clique but eventually the
  - 16 clique beat Animal into the gang?
  - 17 A. Checha was the one that was saying that no, he didn't want
  - 18 Animal and all that because Checha wanted to bring a friend of
  - 19 his in.
- 12:45PM 20 Q. But, sir, the question is do you recall telling the
  - 21 government that many ESLS members opposed jumping Animal into
  - 22 | the clique but eventually the clique beat Animal into the gang?
  - 23 A. If the runners say they're going to jump him, they jump
  - 24 him.
  - 25 | Q. Sir, let me try this one more time. Did you tell the

- 1 government and its agents that "Many ESLS members opposed
- 2 jumping Animal into the clique but eventually the clique beat
- 3 Animal into the gang"?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And one of the people who was against that idea was
- 6 Mr. Guzman, right?
- 7 A. I don't know because if Guzman had spoken since he was a
- 8 runner, he would have been understood better. If he had spoken
- 9 up and said no, we're not jumping him, then perhaps he would
- 12:47PM 10 | not have been jumped in.
  - 11 Q. But that's not how it went down, was it?
  - 12 A. No.
  - 13 Q. He was outvoted?
  - 14 A. I don't remember if he was outvoted or silenced.
  - 15 | Q. But you wanted the Animal into the clique, right?
  - 16 A. He's a member that goes to barrio. It's not that I
  - 17 | wanted, because if I had wanted, I would have jumped him.
  - 18 Animal said that he had spoken to Casper to run with the
  - 19 clique. I didn't say to him come to my clique.
- 12:47PM 20 | Q. Did you oppose him coming into your clique?
  - 21 A. No.
  - 22 | Q. What about Pelon? Did Pelon want him in the clique?
  - 23 A. No, I was with Pelon, and since Pelon was always with me,
  - 24 | sometimes we'd go to hang out with the dudes, and many dudes
  - 25 | met him in that way and started taking down his phone number.

- That's how Pelon entered hanging out with the clique until one 1 day Casper told him at the garage that he was going to jump him 2 in, and Pelon said no, that he didn't want to get beaten up, he 3 didn't want to be jumped in.
- MR. MURPHY: Objection, your Honor. 5
- 6 THE COURT: Let's stop there and put another question to the witness. 7
  - MR. MURPHY: I'd ask for that testimony to be stricken as non-responsive, your Honor.
    - THE COURT: Well, it wasn't responsive, but it was also something we've been over multiple times, so I'll let it stand.
- 13 Mr. Lopez.

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12:50PM 20

12:48PM 10

- 14 MR. LOPEZ: I just need a second, your Honor.
- 15 I'm about to move into some translations, assuming my program opens. Now, Mr. Hernandez Miguel, you testified that 16 meetings of the clique were monthly? 17
  - Each month, but if there were problems in the clique, they Α. would be more often.
  - And was that true in December of 2014? 0.
- 21 I don't understand the question.
- In December of 2014, was the clique meeting on a monthly 22 23 basis?
- 24 It could be every month or every two weeks or even every 25 week.

- 1 Q. And isn't it true then in December of 2014, you had not
- 2 seen Mr. Guzman for a few months?
- 3 A. We hadn't spoken, but we would always see each other
- 4 including when we were hanging out.
- 5 Q. Do you recall a conversation with Caballo that you had in
- 6 December of 2014?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Where you asked Caballo when you last saw Mr. Guzman?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 12:51PM 10 Q. And do you recall saying that you hadn't seen Mr. Guzman
  - 11 for about three months?
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
  - 13 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry.
  - 14 THE COURT: You're asking him --
  - 15 MR. LOPEZ: If he had a conversation with Mr. Caballo
  - and if he recalls saying to Caballo that he hadn't seen
  - 17 Mr. Guzman in about three months.
  - 18 THE COURT: I'll let it stand.
  - 19 Q. That you had not spoken with Mr. Guzman in about three
- 12:52PM 20 months?
  - 21 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, could you repeat the
  - 22 entire question for the interpreter?
  - 23 Q. Do you recall having a conversation with Mr. Caballo --
  - 24 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry.
  - 25 | Q. Do you recall having a conversation with Mr. Caballo --

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. -- where you told him that it was about three months that
- 3 you had not spoken to Playa?
- 4 A. Yes, spoken on the phone. There was a period of time
- 5 where we hardly spoke on the phone, but we always saw each
- 6 other when we were hanging out.
- 7 Q. Okay. And are you saying that you didn't speak to him
- 8 when you went to meetings?
- 9 A. No, that perhaps I hadn't talked to him on the phone.
  - When you go to the meetings, of course, you see all the dudes
- 11 there.

12:54PM 10

- MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, can I approach for a second?
- 13 THE COURT: All right.
- 14 (THE FOLLOWING OCCURRED AT SIDEBAR:)
- MR. LOPEZ: I have some tapes, some translations and
- 16 | some tapes that I want to play, Mr. Pohl, but I'm having some
- 17 | technical difficulties. For some reason, it was up and then it
- 18 | went back down, so I can try to boot it back up or since we
- 19 have five minutes, I thought maybe --
- 12:54PM 20 THE COURT: You said your whole exam was an hour and a
  - 21 half, and it's been nearly three hours, so how much more do you
  - 22 have?
  - 23 MR. LOPEZ: I just want to go through these tapes.
  - 24 THE COURT: How long is that going to take assuming
  - 25 | the equipment is working?

MR. LOPEZ: Less than a half hour.

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THE COURT: Mr. Pohl. 2. Let's do this, let's try to use the time --3 4 Yes. MR. POHL: Can I -- sorry, before we leave, let's see 5 6 how long that takes and without definitively committing myself to this plan of action, if this goes the way that I think it's 7 going to, I would expect not to have redirect questions, so I'm 8 thinking -- I don't know if the Court has any interest and 9 12:55PM 10 inquiry whether they want to stay. THE COURT: Let's here how it goes. Less than half an 11 12 hour is like on the order of 20 minutes. 1.3 (SIDEBAR CONFERENCE WAS CONCLUDED) 14 THE COURT: All right. Let's go. 15 MR. LOPEZ: With the Court's permission, I wanted to 16 begin -- I'm having technical difficulties, your Honor. 17 THE COURT: Why don't you try it without playing it. Why don't you see what happens if you just ask the witness 18 19 about the word or the translation issue. 12:57PM 20 Sir, do you remember having a conversation with Muerto in 21 July of 2015? 22 Α. I spoke to myself? 23 No, with Mr. Caballo? Ο. 24 Α. Yes. 25 Ο. And do you recall expressing frustration in your

- 1 conversation with him that the members of the Eastside clique
- 2 | didn't want to do Mara things?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And when you said that the members didn't want to do Mara
- 5 things, were you referring to Mr. Guzman?
- 6 A. I don't remember.
- 7 Q. Now, directing your attention to December 6, 2015, do you
- 8 remember a conversation that you were having with Pelon and an
- 9 unidentified male regarding the clique again?
- 12:59PM 10 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, what? I was speaking
  - 11 | while you spoke. I didn't hear the last part.
  - 12 Q. Regarding the clique again?
  - 13 A. I don't remember.
  - 14 Q. Well, do you remember expressing to Pelon your
  - disappointment that people weren't doing anything for the
  - 16 clique?
  - 17 A. No, I don't remember.
  - 18 Q. Do you recall telling him, "You're my friend, if you need
  - 19 something, let me know what's up." Do you remember saying
- 01:00PM 20 that?
  - 21 A. I don't remember.
  - 22 Q. Do you remember saying to Pelon, "These dudes don't know,
  - these dudes are not in the Mara anymore, dude"?
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
  - 25 THE COURT: Overruled.

- 1 A. I don't remember. How would they not be in the MS if
- 2 | they're in there? If they go to the meetings and they go
- 3 everywhere, then they're gang members.
- 4 Q. My question, sir, is do you recall telling Pelon that
- 5 These dudes don't know, these dudes are not in the Mara
- 6 anymore, dude"?
- 7 A. I don't recall. How would I say that they're not in the
- 8 Mara?
- 9 Q. So you're not saying you didn't say, you're just saying
- 01:01PM 10 | you don't recall saying it, correct?
  - 11 A. What I'm saying is how would I be saying that they're not
  - in MS if they have been jumped in?
  - 13 THE COURT: How much more do you have, Mr. Lopez?
  - MR. LOPEZ: Not much more, your Honor.
  - 15 THE COURT: Why don't we -- if it's all right with the
  - 16 | jury, why don't we stay here for a bit and see if we can't
  - 17 | finish this.
  - 18 | O. Now, do you recall a conversation with Caballo where you
  - 19 | were discussing what some kids did to someone's house?
- 01:02PM 20 A. No, I don't remember.
  - 21 Q. Do you recall discussing going up to shoot up Casper's
  - 22 house?
  - 23 A. I don't remember.
  - Q. And do you recall telling Caballo, "The same way we did it
  - 25 that day"?

- 1 A. I don't remember.
- 2 Q. Well, do you recall being involved with vandalizing
- 3 someone's house previously?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Do you recall a plan that you and Pelon hatched to try to
- 6 | motivate Mr. Guzman to participate in gang activities?
- 7 A. How would I be motivating somebody else to participate in
- 8 gang activities?
- 9 Q. Well, did you hear about the vandalism that occurred to
- 01:04PM 10 Mr. Guzman's home and car?
  - 11 A. I never heard about that.
  - 12 Q. In July of 2015 around the same time you were complaining
  - 13 that they weren't doing Mara things?
  - MR. POHL: Objection.
  - 15 THE COURT: Overruled.
  - 16 A. I never heard about that. Playa never said anything, at
  - 17 least not to me.
  - 18 MR. LOPEZ: Your Honor, could I have the document just
  - 19 for the witness.
- 01:04PM 20 | Q. Do you recognize the word on this photo?
  - 21 A. A word?
  - 22 O. "Escalade"?
  - 23 A. No, I don't recognize any of this.
  - Q. Do you recall what kind of car Mr. Guzman was driving in
  - 25 July, 2015?

- A. I think it was an Escalade.
- 2 Q. A black Escalade?

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01:06PM 10

- 3 A. I don't remember.
- 4 Q. And, in any event, you don't know anything about how that
- 5 | car was vandalized?
- 6 A. How would I recall if I don't know anything about it?
- 7 Playa never told me anything about that, and I didn't hear
- 8 anything about it from a different dude or a different person.
  - Q. Let me show you another photo. Did you know anything about how the car was vandalized?
- MR. POHL: Objection.
- 12 THE COURT: He said he didn't know anything about
- 13 | the -- that the car was vandalized. I'll allow it, go ahead.
- 14 A. How would I know?
- 15 | Q. Did you -- strike that. Sir, these are my final questions
- 16 to you. Are you a father today?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. How old is your son?
- 19 A. He's almost turning two.
- 01:07PM 20 | Q. And are you hoping to be a part of his life soon?
  - 21 A. Some day.
  - 22 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you, no more questions, your Honor.
  - THE COURT: Any redirect?
  - MR. POHL: Mr. Hernandez Miguel, I don't have any
  - 25 | further questions for you. Thank you.

THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor. THE COURT: All right. We will break there for the day. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for allowing us to finish that. Please remember all of my cautions not to discuss the case among yourselves or with anyone else, and, again, let me emphasize you're not to read or look at or listen to any media reports, and the MBTA willing, we will start tomorrow at 9:00. THE CLERK: All rise. (Whereupon, the hearing was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.) 

C E R T I F I C A T EUNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT ) DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS ) ss. CITY OF BOSTON ) I do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript was recorded by me stenographically at the time and place aforesaid in Criminal Action No. 15-10338-FDS, UNITED STATES vs. HERZZON SANDOVAL, et al., and thereafter by me reduced to typewriting and is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Dated this 13th day of February, 2018. s/s Valerie A. O'Hara VALERIE A. O'HARA OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER